

**A HISTORY OF  
ROCKVILLE, UTAH  
1862 - 1972**

Rockville's New Ward Chapel

**By**

Dedicated May 11, 1935 by

**WAYNE STOUT**

Salt Lake City, Utah

1972

A HISTORY OF  
ROCKVILLE, UTAH  
1862 - 1972

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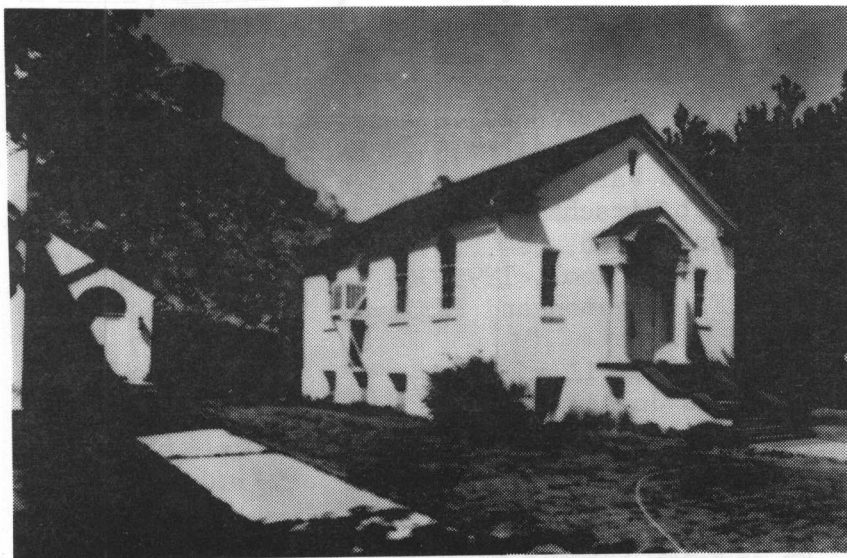
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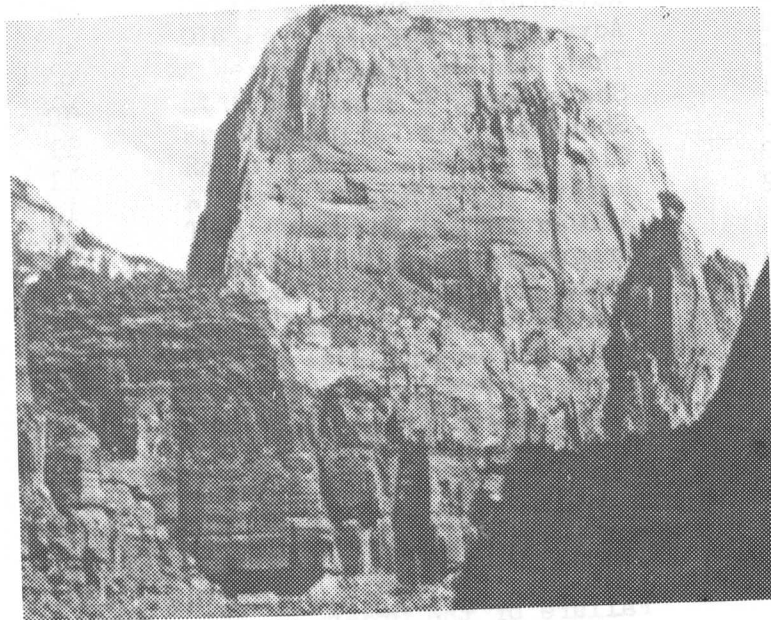
Reed Smoot

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The Great White Throne

Discovered in 1858 by Nephi Johnson  
(See pages 4 and 256)

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## PREFACE

Rockville was foreordained to play a part in the settlement of southern Utah. No other community in the Virgin area was qualified to replace her. Her exalted location under the lofty cliffs was a supreme gift from mother nature no other village in the rocky hills could match. Nature is beautifully expressed by the abundance of flowers and plant life that blanket the haven. Surely the nearest approach to heaven.

These are good reasons for recording its past achievements, its struggles against floods and drouths - all tell a story of victory over insurmountable obstacles.

The task of finding the facts to write this momentous history proved difficult. No previous histories existed which were useable. The materials for this work was obtained by strenuous research and exertion. The few personal biographies in existence were too personal to be used in a community history. The most reliable source of information was the Ward quarterly reports sent into the Historian's Office for preservation. The Stake reports also made a contribution to this project.

Every community in Utah should have its history written. To the alarm of this author, there were persons in the Virgin Valley who objected to this history. These enemies of progress were courteously reprimanded. Local histories are still as essential to civilization as were the writings of those who wrote the Acts of the Apostles.

The author being an amateur typist is responsible for the poor quality of typing herein displayed. He was unable to pay the \$7.00 per page fee demanded by the typesetters. The price of the book was thereby reduced.



## Called to Dixie

At the October General Conference, 1861, Brigham Young called 309 heads of families to establish the Cotton Mission in Washington County. A careful check of those 309 names published in the Journal History for October, 1861 show that only 15 of that number finally settled in the area between Grafton and Springdale, they were :

John H. Ballard, Norman I. Bliss, William L. Brundage, Edward H. Duzette, John C. Hall, Edward Huber, Alonzo Russell, Charles Slaughter, Charles N. Smith, George Staples, James W. Stevens, Allen J. Stout, Ezra Strong, Anson P. Winsor and Franklin W. Young. The number of persons in this group added up to 130 souls.

Thirteen days later Brigham Young called a second group of 250 heads of families to settle in the South. Of this number, only 228 men were listed in the Journal History for that date. A check of those names reveal that only nine settled in the Rockville area. They were :

William A. Beebe, John Dalton, William L. Draper, Zemira Draper, Thomas Farnes, Thomas C. Hall, William Scroggins, Jacob E. Terry, and John Wood.

A third group of pioneers to Dixie is alleged to have been called by President Young in 1862. These 28 families were from Sanpete County, 19 of whom finally settled in the Rockville area, namely :

C. G. Averet, George, Joseph, William and William V. Black, James Newman, Robert Brown, Oliver DeMille, Samuel K. Gifford, Charles Clapper, James Lemmon, Alma and Joseph Millett, Hyrum Morris, Albert and George Petty, Hyrum Stevens and Hardin Whitlock.

Finally, the Dixie volunteers were offended when they failed to receive a call. These men had a

natural talent for pioneer life. Many of them asked for the privilege to go. Others went without permission. Those who landed in the Rockville area were :

John Beal, Martin Cheney, William R. Crawford, Daniel and John Dennett, Franklin Elders, Charles Griffin, Edward Hepworth, Gottlieb Hirschi, Henry Holiday, Cyrus Jennings, John Langston, George Lewis, Jacob and Robert McClure, David Morris, William and David Patton, John Rolph, Ezra Stevens, Charles F. Stevenson, Henry Stocks, A Stanworth, James Thaxton, and David Williams.

When the call for pioneers was issued, these adventurous frontiersmen loaded their wagons with their only possessions and headed south to seek homes and lands in God's country. They realized the best lands would be highly competitive. The first to claim the land would win the prize. The roads leading south were soon crowded with hundreds of wagons, all seeking the same "Mecca". They settled on the Virgin between Virgin City and Zion above the Great White Throne.

#### 1858 - ZION DISCOVERED

At a spot where the future town of Hurricane stands the Virgin River comes out of a narrow canyon whose origin was a mystery in 1858. The area above that narrow canyon is now known as the Upper Virgin Valley. This history is concerned with the people of that valley.

If one should follow the river above the narrows, he will pass what is now Virgin City, a real cozy little village, nestled against the high cliffs and a river. Here, the Virgin valley begins, a rugged valley unequalled in Utah.

Traveling east up this valley, the future town of Grafton lies on the south banks of the Virgin. Next comes the future Rockville on the north bank. Up the river another mile, the river forks, where the future Northrop will be built. One fork continues east passed the future Shonesburg and through a narrow canyon into Long Valley. The other fork turns north up the undiscovered "Zion's " Canyon to the top of the great mountains. This history will be concerned with the peoples inhabiting this valley between Virgin City and the future Springdale. with the greater emphasis on the town of Rockville.

Until 1883, this valley was a part of Kane County. The first exploration of this region was made in 1858. During that year, Brigham Young asked Nephi Johnson to explore the area east of the junction of Ash Creek and the Virgin. At that point, the Virgin exits from a narrow canyon, its source, a mystery. The size of the stream indicated it drained a large area. Brigham Young wanted to know more about the basin which it drained. Nephi Johnson's mission was to follow that stream up to where it originated. New lands for settlement, that was the objective.

Johnson, having received his instructions, began his hazardous journey up the river, taking with him an Indian guide whom he recruited at Toquerville. From a spot near what is now known as La Verkin, the pair climbed the "Hurricane Fault" to its summit, down the opposite side to the Virgin. They followed the stream up till it joined North Creek. At that junction, the Indian called the place, "Pocketville". Later, the white settlers named it "Virgin City".

The two explorers followed the river up and noted the farming site where Grafton was later settled. They also appraised the Rockville and Northrop sites. At Northrop, the river divided. One stream came from the east, the other from the north. First they followed the eastern stream to where the valley

widened. There they spotted a potential farming area. A few Indians were living there. It was to be the future Shonesburg. Retracing their tracts to the junction, they started up the North fork. As they proceeded up the canyon, it became narrower and narrower. The sides also became steeper. There at the mouth of a great canyon, they saw the mighty "White Throne". The walls of the great canyon stood 2,000 feet high and perpendicular to the ground. Johnson was the first white man to witness the great apparition.

His mission was to locate lands which might be cultivated and towns founded. Below the mouth of the canyon he noted at least 60 acres which could be converted into good farming lands. A large clear spring of water was available which could supply a community of home seekers. It was this spring that gave the future Springdale its name.

The explorers moved up the narrow canyon a distance of four miles. There they found a level site of land-five acres in size which they called "Zion". At this point, Oak Creek joined the stream. Moving up, the canyon became even narrower. The Indian stopped with a snort. His superstitious instincts forbid him going farther, said he : "The dreadful Wai-no-pits is in the dark canyon waiting to kill all invaders who venture into his kingdom". Johnson was unimpressed, so he left the Indian and walked up to witness scenery "out of this world". Returning, he found the Indian preparing to leave, the "coming darkness might bring the evil spirits", he complained.

Johnson returned to Cedar City and reported his findings. He recommended the Shonesburg and Pocketville site. He had passed over the future Rockville site, going and coming, but failed to see its potential.

The leaders in Cedar City promptly authorized him to lead a company of home-seekers to the "promised land". A company was recruited which started south, arriving at Pocketville, December 20, 1858. These pioneers were the first to settle the upper Virgin. Within six months, all the useable farming lands were claimed and put into cultivation. (See page 288)

### 1859 - Virgin City Comes Alive

Within six months, Virgin City was booming. In April, the city was "over populated", economically. Signs of over-crowding was evident. The landless portion of the population was frustrated, and disillusioned. In December, these hungry land seekers moved up the valley to find unoccupied lands where new homes could be built. This advance part of five families was led by Nathan C. Tenney. They selected a site one mile below the future Grafton. The tillable lands were divided between the five families.

Promptly, they began building fences, removing the subbery, digging ditches, building a dam in the river, laying out a system of canals, and plowing. The townsite was level and offered bright prospects for the future. That same month, December, the people were organized as a Branch of the Virgin Ward with Nathan C. Tenney in charge.

### 1860 - Grafton Prospers

Early in 1860 the river dam was completed, the canals were in operation, the crops looked promising, indeed, Grafton was up and coming. Later, other home

seekers arrived, but the best lands were already claimed so these late comers had to move higher up the valley.

Agriculture was a success in 1860. There were bright signs of future prosperity. An excellent crop was harvested considering the many disadvantages of a first season. At the end of the year, Grafton celebrated its first year of existence.

### 1861 - That First Flood

1861 looked very bright. Unfortunately, those beautiful dreams faded into disaster. Before January had gone, a vicious flood came roaring down the Virgin, scooping up the rich soil and leaving huge sand bars to obstruct and torment the people. This disaster did not completely discourage the people. Instead, the farmers resolved to fight on with renewed zeal. A new site was selected a mile up stream which offered even greater potentialities.

At this crucial moment, Grafton was visited by George A. Smith, who, by his friendly counseling and sympathy, injected new life into the community. During those hectic months, New Grafton achieved marvelous gains. A townsite was surveyed into lots giving each family its rightful share according to size. Many buildings were erected, subbery removed and plowing and planting begun. All worked from sun to sun to give Grafton a new birth.

May 28, Brigham Young paid his first visit. He gave the Grafton people some timely instructions and encouraged them to press on in the face of tremendous obstacles. These kind words inspired them to achieve miracles. During the summer months a log school house was built on the only "hill" in

town which also served as a church.

November 25, a new neighbor arrived to make his home. His name, Franklin W. Young, a relative of Brigham. December 13, Nathan C. Tenney was released as presiding Elder, and Grafton was organized as a Ward, with Franklin W. Young as its first Bishop.

The end of 1861 witnessed Grafton largely "restored to her original glory". The first harvest indicated that prosperity was in sight. A new wave of optimism inspired Grafton's 100 inhabitants as 1861 bowed out. (See pages 94 A, and 285)

#### 1862 - That Greater Flood

On Christmas Day, before 1861 could bow out, it began raining and continued for 40 days. The rain continued all during January. Before the month was gone, Grafton had suffered its greatest disaster. When the rains stopped in early February, the lands in the valley were soaked to their full capacity, the Virgin was over-flowing its banks and inundating all Grafton except the school house on the hill. Excitement ran high when it was discovered that Tenney's house (a wagon box) was floating down the valley. Tensions increased when it was learned that Tenney's wife was sick in the wagon and expecting a new baby. That caused a panic. Exercising great skill and courage, a sturdy group of men rescued the mother and child. For this heroic act, the child was named: "Maruelous Flood Tenney."

The disaster left Grafton in desolation and the people in despair. Only a few farms escaped damages. A majority of the families were forced to seek new homes elsewhere. Nearly half the population moved up on higher ground where new homes were

built. The soil on those higher grounds was thinner making agriculture more difficult. That did not deter the pioneers, they changed their occupation from farming to cattle raising, which later proved successful.

November 15, Franklin W. Young was released as Bishop and Grafton was given a new church leader. His name, Anson P. Winsor, who remained in office till the Indian troubles of 1866.

Those who remained in Grafton after the flood were : Winsor, Alonzo H. Russell, John H. Ballord, James Andrews, Charles H. Jones, Daniel Morris, William W. Riter and Calvin Ensign.

#### 1860 - Adventure Comes Alive

Meanwhile, those late home seekers who arrived in Grafton in 1860 who had been forced to move up the stream in quest of lands, found a 30- acre level spot on the north side of the river and settled down. These new arrivals were from Cedar City, who hopefully, sought a new Jerusalem to build their future. To commemorate their hectic travels, they named the new "Salem", "Adventure", which was indeed, a real adventure.

This party was led by Philip Klingensmith, first Bishop of Cedar City, who, in 1860, was seeking a safe refuge from the law (He was implicated in the Mountain Meadows Massacre). Other members of the party were : John C. Hall, Dr. Samuel Kenner, Henry Stocks, William Ashton, Elijah Newman and Orson Pratt.

The acreage was limited in Adventure. Each family was assigned a small lot for his home and garden. The land was cleared of subbery, mud dog-outs were built, a river dam constructed and the necessary lateral canals dug.



## 1861 - Adventure Survives

As in Grafton, the arrival of 1861 looked promising. But early in January, the flood that wiped out lower Grafton, struck the lower part of Adventure with a vengeance thus inundating the lower portion of the village. Damage was small, however, so the people were not discouraged. The village survived the flood very well and by December the outlook was promising.

In September, Ezra Strong was appointed Presiding Elder, a position he held till 1864.

The farmers in Adventure harvested an excellent crop in the fall, so the future looked good for 1862.

## 1862 - That Damable Flood

As January arrived, prospects for Adventure were favorable, but the rains which had begun on December 25 (Christmas Day) continued to come down in torrents. By January 2, the Virgin began to overflow its banks. After a few more days of rain, Adventure was nine-tenths covered with water. By the end of the 40-day storm, nearly all of Adventure and all of Grafton was gone. The storm was far greater than the January, 1961 flood. Adventure looked like a drowned rat. Its inhabitants were thoroughly convinced that the site must be abandoned for higher ground. A more suitable site was imperative. While the people of Adventure were making new decisions, we pause to watch other caravans who were camped above the village waiting to move up the valley. It seemed the whole world was on wheels.

1861 - Shonesburg - Utopia

In November the roads above Virgin City was crowded with covered wagons caring home-seekers to the promised land. By December, the camp above Adventure was a town of covered wagons. These home-seekers were from Sanpete. Before the Christmas day rains began, the hardy pioneers were on the move up the valley. They saw that Adventure was already over-crowded, so they moved on up the valley, failed to recognize Rockville as a potential site and stopped at the forks of the river. There they found James F. Lemmon had laid claim to a 30-acre plot suitable for agriculture. Two men in the party, Isaac Behunim and William Black laid claim to adjacent grazing lands which they later abandoned.

The main body of home-seekers moved on up the East Fork to an Indian village, arriving January 20, 1862. after traveling for 26 days during the 49-day storm. Traveling in the heavy mud, no roads, must have been a terrific ordeal. Having arrived in the rain storm, 16 days before the rains stopped, made it difficult to start home making. During the rest of the storm, little progress could be made in building homes and clearing subbery for agriculture.

Oliver DeMille negotiated a deal with Chier Shunes wherein he received the village for a "song".

The DeMille family tradition clain that Oliver was the first Presiding Elder at Shonesburg, but the Petty family history also claim that George Petty was the first Presiding Elder.

Those January arrivals in Shonesburg with the Demilles were : George Petty, Hardin Whitlock, Samuel K. Gifford, William Riggs, Daniel Washburn, Hyrum Stevens, Charles Clapper, Alma Millett, James Thaxton, and John Allred. (See page 286)

## 1862 - Shonesburg Settled

The arrival of the Sanpete pioneers at the Indian village, January 20, was a historical event. In April, Albert Petty, father of George, arrived from Sanpete, bringing a family of 14. Being a miller, he was interested in finding a water power site on the river. He and George inspected all possible sites and found none. Later, Albert suggested they explore the North fork for a site. This they did. An excellent site was located at the mouth of Zion Canyon. The pair promptly returned to Shonesburg, gathered their crops, sold their land claims and moved to the new location on the North fork. They laid claim to some of the best agricultural lands which they divided between father and son. Here, starting from scratch, these mighty pioneer giants, began life all over again. They built homes, removed the subbery, planted crops, and laid the foundation for Springdale. When Albert's wife first saw the beautiful spring, she named the new village - "Springdale". (See page 287)

Disappointed with Northop, William Black and his three sons moved to Springdale. Five other families joined the group : Robert Brown, Newman Brown, Hyrum Morris, C. G. Averet and Joseph Millett.

## 1862 - City of Zion

Joseph Smith Black, son of William, was the inquisitive type. He was curious about those evil spirits the Indians claimed were up in the dark canyon. Leading an exploring party deep into the canyon, he found no evil spirits. He did find something more interesting. He was awed by the greatest

scenery on earth, its magnificence completely carried him away. He reported his indescribable vision to family and friends in such glowing language that his neighbors coined an appropriate name for the Canyon: "Joseph's Glory". Later the name was changed to "Zion".

Joseph was not the first to view the glorious scenery of Zion. Isaac Behunim, who had failed to find land at Northop in January, moved his family up the North Fork (prior to the arrival of the Petty clan) immediately after the 40-day storm was over. Passing the Great White Throne, he penetrated deep into the canyon, four miles above the spring. There he discovered a "valley", five acres in size. On that sacred spot, he founded the great "City of Zion". He was later joined by two more frontiersmen, William Heaps and George Roll. In that momentous city, the sun came up at 11 A.M. and set at 2 P.M. The three families lived from the products grown on the five acres. A Branch was organized with William Heaps in charge. These people didn't know the Civil War was in progress.

#### 1862 - Rockville is Born

The 40-day storm begun on Christmas day, 1861, was responsible for Rockville's birth. The flood left Adventure and Grafton a sea of mud and sand bars. The river had over flown its banks, inundating the villages causing the destruction of many homes and damaging personal property. Much misery and sickness resulted. Adventure was doomed. Its existence would have continued indefinitely had the flood not come. The damages done by the flood was a warning of future disasters. A new site on higher ground was imperative. Such a site was already under

consideration a mile up stream. As soon as the flood subsided and the ground dry enough to walk on, the community leaders surveyed the new townsite, divided the area into building lots and small farms, the sizes of which, depended on the size of the families. As soon as the weather permitted, the people moved onto their assigned lots and began building homes, using mud and logs as building materials.

There was one family in Adventure who prepared not to move up but to move down to St. George. His name was Orson Pratt, his mission complete.

Meanwhile, the exodus from Adventure was lively and painful. The whole area was literally on wheels, all fighting mud and rocks. The building area was a mass of construction starts, piles of logs, rocks, to be used later. It was chaos in the extreme. The workmen were busy re-moving supper, digging ditches, plowing and hauling logs.

Choosing an appropriate name for the village was an easy task. Above the town was a wall of black cliffs that dominated the geography of the valley. At the foot of these cliffs, large black rocks were piled high to obstruct man or beast from trespassing. The word "village" was joined to "rocks" to suggest a name for the community - "Rockville".

There was a reason Rockville was chosen to be the subject of this history. The hamlet is located in the most insignificant spot in all Utah, but located in Utah's most beautiful valley-there is a reason for choosing Rockville's history.

The tiny mountain dell is not the smallest nor the largest; the cleanest nor the dirtiest; the most beautiful nor the ugliest; its people are not the most industrious nor the most indolent; and finally, its history is not the dullest nor the most spirited. The reason Rockville was chosen was : Rockville was the

birth place of this writer. Its as simple as that. The author feels indebted to the village for giving him life and hope in this glorious country. America, the land of freedom, the mother of genuine democracy, the original home of true religion - divinely selected by providence to usher in the last dispensation.

On the outer fringes of Utah lies this mountain dell in all her glory and majesty, guarded by mountain cliffs from the ravages of tornados and hurricanes. These guardians insure peace and security. The thousands who originated here should give thanks for their blessings and inheritance in a land where freedom and liberty reign supreme.

Water was a serious problem for Rockville. To obtain this precious resource, a dam was built across the river. Canals to carry the water to the farms were indispensable. The thirsty crops would die without this nourishment. These projects required a great deal of labor and skill. It was too big a job for one farmer to achieve, it required the cooperation of all. Diverting water from the river through a system of canals required the skill of an irrigation engineer. Rockville farmers supplied those skills. The project was not completed in time to aid the 1862 crops, but was in service for the 1863 season.

The first family to start building a home was John Langston, next came William R. Crawford. Dozens of other homes were soon under construction. One of these early builders was Ezra Strong who had been appointed Presiding Elder of Adventure September 25, 1861. When his congregation all moved to Rockville, he continued to serve as Elder in 1862 and until 1864. He was replaced in January, 1864 when he moved to Kanab.

Those who began building homes were : Charles N. Smith, Charles Potter, John C. Hall, Ezra and his son Hyrum Strong, Elijah Newman, George Staples,



Ezra Strong

b. April 4, 1820

d. 1895, Montana

m. Oct. 12, 1843

to :

Maria L. Beard

m. 2nd. to:

Mary Nisonger

June 2, 1861

d. Mar. 12, 1840.

Children :

Hyrum, b. Mar. 30, 1845, d. Mar. 15, 1915, m July, 1863.

Joseph Orson, b. Nov. 12, 1847, d. April 8, 1854.

Martha Ellen, b. April 29, 1852, d. April 27, 1915.

Maria Louisa, b. Aug. 18, 1855, d. Feb. 8, 1918.

Mineria, b. Dec. 21, 1858, d. Sept. 8, 1917.

Lydia, b. Nov. 24, 1860, d. in Feb. 1908, m. Pinckwy.

.....  
Children by second wife :

Mary, b. Mar. 29, 1862, m. to Isaac Eaton.

Ezra Chester, b. Oct. 16, 1864.

William Henry, b. July 16, 1866.

Primtha, b. Jan. 4, 1869, d. 1915.

Pheby, b. Feb. 14, 1871, d. 1890, m. 1889 to C. Kenyon.

Albert and Edward Huber, Thomas Hall, Joseph and James McFate, Dr. Samuel Kenna, Henry Jennings, William H. Carpenter, Henry Stocks, William Ashton, Edward Frodsham, William Scroggins, Dewey Hirschi, Daniel Dennett, Thomas Flanigan, William L. Draper, Asa York, and James Greene. These families spent the first winter (1862-63) in Rockville.

In October the citizens began the construction of a log school house, 18x20 feet, which when completed in 1863, was also used as a church.

Returning to the Grafton story, the great flood had nearly washed Grafton away. Only a small margin of the town was left intact. In spite of this disaster, the morale of the people remained high. The muddy ground finally dried up so the farmers could work the land. The farms which were completely washed away could not be redeemed so their owners were forced to move away. Zemira Draper lost all, he moved to Rockville. The rest of the farmers moved to higher ground where a new Grafton was built. The lands were divided among the new owners, fences built, subbery removed, and plowing begun. Since the soil was less fertile, cattle raising was more profitable. Some of the farmers changed to cattle. A few were successful. Those who remained in Grafton were : Alonzo H. Russell, John H. Ballard, James Andrews, Charles H. Jones, David Morris, Calvin Ensign and William W. Riter.

Grafton managed to survive. In 1865, Grafton had 2,000 acres under cultivation most of which was dry farming. The change of occupation from farming to cattle raising saved Grafton from dying prematurely. The seven mile canal cost the farmers \$15,000 in labor.

In 1863 the people of Grafton suffered from a shortage of food due to the fact that they had planted too much cotton and not enough food producers.



## 1863 - A Beautiful Dell

The completion of the dam and canal system begun in 1862 was ready in time to save the 1863 crops. Rockville, as a result, became a beautiful dell with green vegetables and flowers. Truly the life giving water had created a beautiful "paradise" surrounded by a desert, an achievement her sister towns could not match.

The school house was completed in September for the 20 pupils who were taught by Dr. Samuel Kenner, Rockville's first school teacher. The school sessions lasted three months. The building was also used for church services.

The completion of the canal system made it possible to install a power wheel in one of the larger canals. The stream in the canal forced the wheel to revolve thus producing power to operate a cotton gin, a corn grinder or a sorghum mill. The three machines were installed by Henry Stocks who had been a moulder in England. The power wheel preformed well as long as the water supply lasted, but during the dry season, all operations ended.

Irrigation water was available during the early months so the farmers planted corn, cane and wheat which yielded abundantly. Some cotton was grown. The Civil war half over in 1863, so the market for cotton was falling, hence unprofitable to raise- besides cotton could not be eaten.

John Langston recorded in his 1863 Journal that Rockville raised 220 pounds of cotton, a small amount of wheat, corn and cane. With time, the production of cotton became less. In later years, the raising of fruit trees replaced cotton.

A disaster struck Rockville in November when the gin and power mill burned down.

-It was impossible to purchase furniture anywhere in the Virgin valley. Every family found it

## History of Rockville

it necessary to make its own furniture if he had the necessary skills. If not, he took his broken furniture to Samuel Gifford in Springdale who was a skilled cabinet maker. Many in Rockville did just that. The barter system was popular. Gifford accepted other goods in exchange for his work.

The town was strengthened by the arrival of James P. and Jacob Terry who arrived in the spring from Draper, Utah. Another valuable addition was Zenira Draper whose home had been washed away at Grafton. Within a year he was Rockville's Presiding Elder.

A Stake Conference in July at St. George gave some agricultural statistics relating to the towns on the upper Virgin :

Ward	Acres	Wheat	Corn	Cane	Cotton	Veg.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grafton	150	16	70	25	4784	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northrop	30	5	17	5	4	
Rockville	170	20	44	12	26	5
Shonesburg	75	1	15	9	13	
Springdale	110	17	40	15	35	
Totals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	469	59	171	86	86	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## 1864 - Progress at Rockville

A Stake Conference was held in St. George, January 16. Ezra Strong was released as Rockville's Branch President. Zemira Draper was appointed to replace him. A census of the Stake was announced. The seven wards and branches on the upper Virgin were :

# 1864 - Progress at Rockville

Ward	Families	Members
.....	.....	.....
Duncan	8	50
Grafton	28	168
Northrop	3	17
Rockville	18	95
Shonesburg	7	45
Springdale	9	54
Virgin	56	336
.....	.....	.....
Totals	129	765

.....

The second school year in Rockville Henry Jennings was the teacher (1864-65). He was also the first Sunday School Superintendent. It is not known who served from 1866 to 1875, but in 1876, C. M. Jennings served from 1876 to 1883. David F. Stout was Superintendent from 1883 to 1886. Joseph A. Smith from 1886 to 1891, and John F. Langston from 1891 to 1899.

January 16, 1864, the Utah Legislative Assembly created Kane County. The upper Virgin valley was included in Kane County. Grafton was made the County seat.

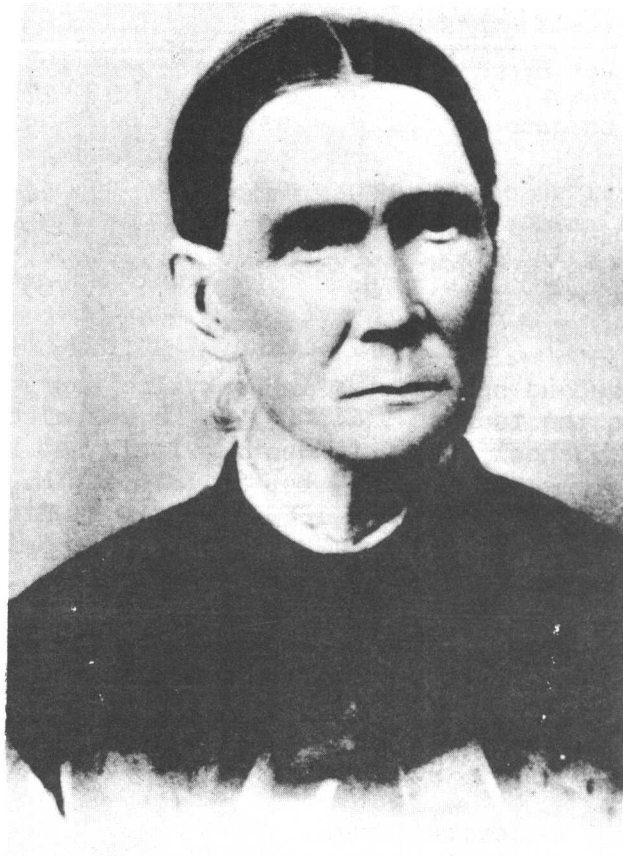
.....

## Zemira Draper

Born February 27, 1812, Died January 9, 1876  
Married January 30, 1842 to Amy Terry, b. 1821.

### Children :

Helen Agnes, b. Feb. 24, 1843, d. 1924, m. Jan. 15, 1861  
Lydia H., b. Oct. 4, 1848, d. 1912, m. 1864 to Bateman.  
Susannah, b. 1851, 1933, m. May 8, 1871 to James Ballard  
Phebe, b. 1857, d. 1908, m. 1877 to John Terry.  
Zemira T. b. 1859, d. 1907, m. 1887 to Olga Poulson.  
Zilpha, b. 1861, d. 1890, m. 1881 to Henner Duzzett.  
Carson C., b. 1865, d. 1934, m. 1886 to Vilate Dalton.



Amy Terry Draper

Zemira Draper was never photographed. It becomes necessary therefore to substitute in his place a picture of his wife :

Amy Terry Draper

## 1865-66 - Black Hawk War

Black Hawk, Utah's "Red Napoleon", was a victim of the white man's injustice and inequitable treatment. The red chief violently resented the white man's policy of unjust discrimination. He met the challenge by assuming a very hostile attitude toward the whites. The spark that ignited the conflagration was the failure of the government to honor the treaty signed at Spanish Fork, June, 1865. The alleged treaty repudiation led to hostilities when John Lawry disciplined a young chief for obnoxious conduct. This was the spark that ignited the war. Several white men paid with their lives for Lawry's unwise tactics. War was then declared by the red men. The whites took a defensive position and only attacked in retaliation for murders committed. The war was centered in Sanpete and Sevier counties. These settlements soon realized they were faced by a bloody conflict. An uncle of this writer, David H. Jones, was killed, May 29, 1865 by the Indians near Fairview.

Black Hawk, himself, became the leader of these vicious desperadoes whose supreme objective was to strike where least expected and drive off as many cattle and horses as possible. Black Hawk was too smart to be captured. In June, 1866, General Pace had Black Hawk trapped in Salina Canyon and did not know it. Profiting from Pace's stupidity, the Indians crawled out of the death trap with all their booty. Pace's failure extended the war two more years.

The Indian war came within 30 miles of Rockville in 1866. The first incident took place near Pipe Springs on the Arizona line in January. Some sheep had been stolen from Dr James Whitmore's ranch. Whitmore and Robert McIntyre went in pursuit of the thieves and were killed by the Indians. A posse from Rockville aided in the capture of the out-laws. These redmen were shot when they attempted to escape.

More alarming for Rockville was the murder of the Berry brothers of Grafton. Robert and Joseph Berry were

## History of Rockville

at the Maxwell's Ranch near Short Creek. They and Robert's wife, Isabel, were murdered by the Indians. Their failure to return to Grafton on schedule, aroused their relatives. A party from Grafton was sent to investigate. They found all three murdered. A dead Indian also lay near by. It was clear that Robert and wife had been tied to the wagon wheels and cruelly put to death with arrows. Joseph too had suffered a violent death.

When the news of this tragedy reached St George the entire country was shocked. Dixie went into a state of panic. "To Arms", was the war cry. Martial law was declared, May 2. Stake officials ordered the people to concentrate in the larger communities for protection. Upper Virgin residents were advised to move into Rockville - including Grafton, Northop, Shonesburg and Springdale. Rockville soon began to burst at its seams. Every available spot was choked with covered wagons and tents. The town became a bubbling babylon. The old inhabitants provided quarters for the new comers as best they could.

This movement of the population, covering all of May, had its strenuous consequents. First the exit of all Grafton residents to Rockville made it necessary to change Rockville from a branch to the status of a ward. Anson P. Winsor, ex-bishop of Grafton, was appointed Bishop of the enlarged Rockville ward. This action was taken November 4, 1866.

A mass meeting was held in Rockville, May 27, where all new comers were given a special welcome. At that meeting the people were asked if they approved the Stake action. The people indicated their approval.

The civil affairs of Kane County were also affected by the Grafton move. Since the County seat had been vacated, at Grafton, county business came to an end. A vacuum in county government was created. The Legislative Assembly awoke to this fact, and on January 12, changed the county seat to Rockville.

Rockville's First Bishop

ANSON P. WINSOR

Born August 19, 1818, died June 17, 1917, age 99.  
Married March 20, 1842 to Emeline Z. Brower.  
She was born March 21, 1824, died Jan. 5, 1901.



ANSON PERRY WINSOR

Children :

Walter, b. Nov. 30,  
1844, d. Dec. 1936.  
m. June 28, 1866 to:  
Sarah Ann Potter.

.....  
Margaret, b. May 9,  
1852, d. May 11, 1873  
M. 1870 to Abraham  
Winsor.

.....  
Perry, b. Oct. 9, 1854  
d. July 26, 1915, m.  
Mar. 9, 1877 to Sarah  
Terry.

.....  
Samuel, b. Jan. 20,  
1857, d. Nov. 19, 1937  
m. Mar. 9, 1877 to  
Ella Westover.

.....  
Emeline, b. Jan. 9, 1859, d. Feb. 4, 1942, m. Sept. 15, 1872  
to Eleazer Asay.

Lucy, b. Sept. 7, 1868, d. Dec. 27, 1926, m. Feb. 9, 1892  
to David E. Hatch.

.....  
Anson m. 2nd, Feb. 7, 1857 to Mary Nielsen, b. 1840, d. 1870  
Three children : Joseph, b. 1864; Andrew, b 1866; Mary, 1868.

## History of Rockville

Not all citizens in the upper Virgin agreed that the population should be concentrated in the larger towns as a protection against the Indians. There was one man in Springdale who opposed the plan. He was the presiding Elder in Springdale, the honorable Albert Petty, who did his own thinking. He rated his own judgment superior and more rational than the Stake officials so he remained in Springdale. Future events vindicated his decision. He remained as safely in Springdale as were those who ran for shelter. This incident casts doubt on the advice of men high in the church. Those 30 families who moved to Rockville for protection were victims of false leadership. The exiles suffered intolerable inconveniences to satisfy the greed of silly old men. Events vindicated Petty.

A few of the families living in Rockville had been run out of Long Valley in late 1866. These citizens were under pressure to organize a rescue party to retrieve their farm produce by force if necessary. In October the expedition was successful. On their return, they were attacked by a band of Indians. No one was killed but Hyrum Stevens was badly wounded. His comrades put him on a horse, and led him down the high mountain, a three-day journey, to safety at home. This was the last contact the people of Rockville had with the warring Indians.

The population of Rockville in December, 1866 was 430, thanks to the "transients" from other towns. Agricultural production that year reached a peak. There were  $15\frac{1}{2}$  acres of wheat, 47 acres of corn, 35 of cotton and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  in cane, a total of 113 acres.

John Langston wrote in his 1866 Journal that he raised 650 pounds of cotton, 18 bu. of wheat and 60 bu. of corn.



## Black Hawk War

Rockvillr was first organized as a Ward, November 4, 1866 with Winsor as Bishop and Edwin P. Duzeth as first Counselor and John J. Allred as second. Prior to that date, Rockville had been a branch of the Grafton Ward. From 1862 to 1866, there was no separate list of branch members kept by the church. All Rockville members were included in the Grafton Ward records. When the ward was organized in November, 1866, all Rockville ward members were recorded as they entered the ward. This group was listed as the first period in Rockville history. This period covered from 1866 to 1900. The total membership during that period was 912. During that 34 year period, memberships changed rapidly. The population was moving in and out constantly. There were 110 heads of families.

During the first 75-year period, 1866-1941, the Rockville ward records were divided into three periods of time, namely, 1866-1900, 1901-1918, and 1919-1941. We have detailed the first period, the second period began in 1901 and ended in 1918, a period of 17 years. There were 644 persons listed in that period, 47 were heads of families. In the final period, 1919-1941, a 22-year span, there were 1010 persons listed, and 79 heads of families.

In summary, during that 75-year period, there was a total of 236 heads of families, total of 2566 persons listed. Of the original pioneers listed in these pages, there are 13 who have vanished into oblivion, namely : Samuel Smith, Charles Potter, William Ashton, William H. Carpenter, Stephen Foster, James Greene, William Holiday, James and Joseph McFate, Edward Huber (may have moved to Arizona), Edward Frodsham, William Scroggins and Asa York.

## 1867 - Indian Raids

The expedition to retrieve the farm products from Long Valley was Rockville's last contact with the Black Hawk war. It was not the last time its citizens were involved in the conflict, however. The Indians made a raid on Pine Valley, January, and drove off a heard of

## History of Rockville

cattle and some horses. In making their escape they circled St. George, turning east down Black Canyon to Pipe Springs. At Maxwell's ranch they were attacked by Colonel Winsor (Bishop) and a posse of 30 men from the upper Virgin who successfully ambushed them in a deep ravine, killing four and forcing 13 red men to surrender. Two were killed when attempting to escape. All the cattle and horses were recovered. The Rockville posse returned home well satisfied with their mission. The Virgin area had no more contacts with the Indians during the remainder of 1867. Not till 1868 did the Navajo from New Mexico cross the Colorado to make raids on the settlements south of St. George. A few miner attacks were made in 1869 but none on the upper Virgin.

A peace conference was held in August, 1868 at Strawberry Valley in which a final peace treaty was made. But these agreements did not deter the Navajos from New Mexico from crossing the Colorado and making cattle raids in the Arizona strip.

The war which had broken out in 1865 and concluded in August, 1868 had cost the lives of 70 white and 70 red men. A million dollars was expended in the struggle.

### 1868 - Exodus from Rockville

Prior to the Indian troubles in 1866, the church membership in Rockville was 95. During the two years the exiles were present the population went to nearly 500 persons or about 200 families. Unlike, Albert Petty who was not afraid of the Indians, these exiles squeezed themselves into limited quarters, many in tents and covered wagons waiting for the Indians to retreat (they had never advanced). In March, when these refugees began returning to their homes, the population dropped to its original level.

A letter written to the Deseret News in March by

## 1868 - Exodus from Rockville

Charles N. Smith, reported that the Indian troubles were over and that those who moved to Rockville in 1866 were returning to their homes.

After this agony was over the people were plagued by a grass-hopper invasion that damaged the crops. The exit from Rockville was partly compensated by the arrival of the large Allen J. Stout family consisting of ten children, four due to arrive later. He had been expelled from Long Valley in 1866. His large family made a valuable contribution to the community.

During 1867 a serious controversy developed in the ward between Bishop Winsor and six ward members. The nature of the conflict was never disclosed. The fight came to the surface in July, 1867 when Erastus Snow came to Rockville and interviewed both factions. During the next nine months the Stake Presidency silently studied the case. At the Stake Conference, April 30, the church authorities held a hearing, both sides testifying. The Stake officials asked Winsor to remain in office till his tithing reports were completed.

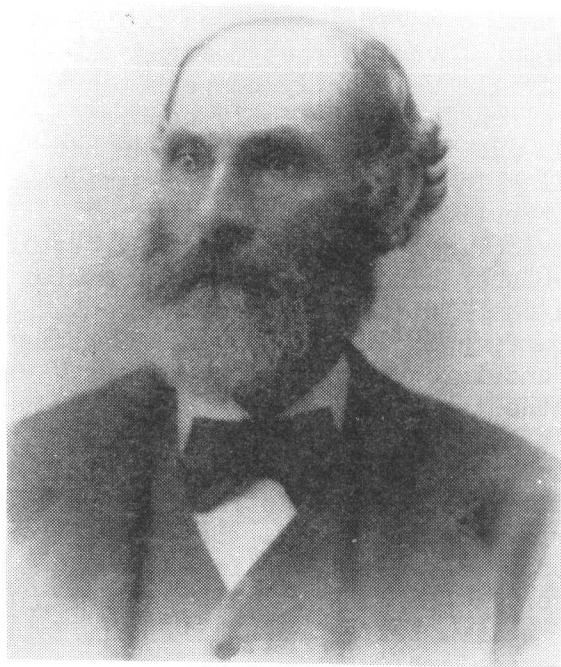
The Stake Presidency visited Rockville, May 10, and released Winsor. Charles N. Smith was sustained as the new Bishop. Zemira Draper and William L. Brundage were selected as Counselors.

During the winter, 1867-68, the floods in the Virgin had caused considerable damage to farming lands in Rockville and Grafton.

The people in Springdale, unlike the other towns, did not need a branch re-organization when the exiles returned from Rockville, March, 1868. The branch still had its original Elder who had been appointed in 1862. Albert Petty was the only brave person in Springdale. He had not panicked in 1866, but remained home all during the Indian troubles. He had dared the Indians to dare the Indians to attack. The Indians were afraid of the deep and dark canyon, so why should Petty run ?

Rockville's Second Bishop

CHARLES NEPHE SMITH



Born March 14, 1824, died March 1, 1897  
Married December 20, 1857 to Maria DeGray.  
Daughter of John, born March 21, 1840, d. 1879.

Children :

Joseph, b. Oct. 29, 1858, m. Mar. 3, 1880 to Duzzette.

George, b. June 28, 1861, d. Mar. 23, 1939.

Eliza, b. Sept. 15, 1865, m. 1885 to Hyrum Morris.

Sarah, b. Feb. 18, 1873, d. Oct. 11, 1943.

Sophia, b. Mar. 20, 1877, d. Nov. 1962, m. Manson.

.....

## 1869 - Assembly Prejudiced

Utah's Legislative Assembly was prejudiced against Rockville. She had been the County seat for just two years and seven days. Rockville was made the county seat January 12, 1867. For no rational reason, the Assembly made Toquerville the new County seat, January 19, 1869.

Rockville suffered another loss, April 10, when its only church building burned down.

When the Shonesburg residents returned to their homes in March, 1868, John A. Allred was appointed Elder. He served till 1869 when Samuel K. Gifford replaced him.

Springdale's great founder, Albert Petty, died July 27. He was replaced by Zemira Palmer.

## 1870 - A War on Polygamy

The destruction of Rockville's meeting house in April, 1869, the members proceeded with plans to erect a new church building.

The Journal History for March 2, reported that the people of Rockville held a protest meeting against the passage by Congress of the notorious Cullom Bill which aimed to "liberate" the enslaved "plural wives from their Mormon harems". This bill implied that all plural wives in Utah were living in abject slavery to their cruel husbands. The proposed legislation allegedly aimed to set them free. The people of Rockville saw this as a monstrous falsehood. They promptly held a protest meeting against its passage. Instead of liberating the wives, the bill aimed to destroy self-government; prohibit trial by jury; appointment of all court officials in Utah by the Governor; deny the suffrage to many citizens in Utah; and deny the right to hold civil office to Mormons. Rockville citizens were alarmed when the House of Representatives passed this legislation, March 23. The people of Rockville had solid reasons for opposing this tyrannical act

## History of Rockville

which would have reduced the Bill of Rights to a mockery. Thanks to the wisdom of the U.S. Senate this unconstitutional measure was defeated.

Prior to the Senate action, June 27, the Relief Society held a prayer meeting at the home of Zemira Draper where the defects of the bill were fully examined. Resolutions were read and approved. Testimonies were born relative to the great revelation given to Joseph Smith. Several spoke in tongues, others interpreted them. Many of the sisters spoke with great power and conviction. The war against polygamy had been defeated.

The controversy raised by the Cullom bill became the main issue in the 1870 election campaign. The Tribune and the Liberal party proposed that the Cullom bill be passed to solve Utah's marriage laws. The people of Rockville disagreed. They approved the platform of the People's party which strongly opposed the Cullom bill.

The people of Rockville, like all true Americans, felt humiliated and harassed by the carpetbaggers, judicial persecutors, hostile congressmen and a libelous press - resolved to petition Congress for statehood. Naturally, the Tribune and the Liberal party were strongly opposed to statehood. These obnoxious groups placed a high price on Utah's admission as a state. To qualify, they demanded the abolition of polygamy. "Surrender polygamy" they demanded, and "Utah will be granted statehood".

But the people of Rockville believed in plural marriage. In the upper Virgin Valley, at least 100 families were involved. Would these people surrender polygamy? That was too high a price for statehood.

Faced with this dilemma, the Legislative Assembly called a special election for February 5, to choose delegates to a constitutional convention to meet February 19. The Tribune was violently opposed to the idea:

"Pure theocracy", the editor shouted, "and Jack Mormonism today go lovingly hand-in hand to predestinate constitutional convention for the purpose of framing a

## 1870 - A War on Polygamy

state out of a church, with a prophet as a dictator".

Such views were ridiculous. The citizens of Rockville had more faith in a convention than in the Tribune. In spite of bitter opposition, the convention was held. A memorial to Congress was written. The issue which the convention had to resolve was :

"Shall polygamy be prohibited or sanctioned by the new Constitution ?".

The Tribune angrily answered : "The Mormons think they can smuggle Utah into the Union with polygamy!".

The convention, ignoring the Tribune, asked Congress to admit Utah into the Union.

In due time the memorial reached Congress and was submitted to the Committee on Territories. That body was more hostile to Utah's admission than was the Tribune - if that could be possible. That prejudiced committee exhibited its enmity by refusing to even read the memorial. If the bill could have survived the committees in both houses, it had a greater obstacle to face, the President's veto, Utah's greatest enemy. As well expect Satan to accept Mormonism!

The people of Rockville had to be satisfied with territorial status for the next 26 years.

For the first time in Rockville history, Uncle Sam came to count its citizens. He found only 225 persons in Utah's most beautiful town. The population of the other Virgin towns were :

Crafton, 38; Duncan's Retreat, 71; Shonesburg, 50; Virgin City, 224. Springdale's census was not given.

## 1871 - The Grasshopper War

In his Journal for 1868, Allen J. Stout had complained about the grasshoppers which came in "great numbers and severely injured the crops". These invasions was only a sample of what was in store for the valley.



## History of Rockville

The great "Noah's" flood of hoppers came three years later. The grasshoppers of 1868 came in thousands, the red clouds of hoppers came in billions in 1871. Only Noah's flood can be used in comparison. They formed great black clouds in the sky. The people thought it was a complete eclipse of the sun. It was so dark at noon, the farmers had to carry lanterns to find the cows. In John Dennett's Journal he could not remember what year it happened, but Allen J. Stout definitely fixed the date, 1871 which will be accepted. Allen's 1871 Journal :

"We still continued to labor and raise bread by tilling the earth and raising grain and fruit. The year 1871 was ushered in with severe sickness, measles and colds which proved fatal to many. The grasshoppers came again in countless numbers, devouring everything before them. ...It seemed impossible to save the crops. We saved some fruit by smoking them out. ...What was left was badly injured. ...The grasshoppers finally passed out, so we were able to get some corn and molasses."

John Dennett left an excellent account of the war, quoted from Under Dixie Sun, p. 285 :

" 1871 we had a terrible scare. It looked as if we were going to have to stand by and see our crops completely destroyed by grasshoppers. One day the sun suddenly became darkened and it seemed that great clouds were covering the valley. They were not clouds, however, but billions of grasshoppers. They settled down in the fields. They swarmed around the windows of our houses and came into our kitchens making it impossible to do any cooking. ...It was terrible. They started eating our crops. We determined to destroy them. In desperation, we went into our fields with clubs and brooms and tried to drive them off. Some of our people put chickens into the fields to help kill the hoppers. The chickens did eat some of them. (But unlike the sea gulls of 1848, they did not vomit them up). The grasshoppers were in town a day or two and left as suddenly as they came."



### 1872 - Floods and Frost

A damaging flood hit Shonesburg in June, which destroyed the crops and broke the dam in the creek. The damages exceeded \$1,000.

A spring frost killed all the fruit in the village.

### 1873 - Death of Father Black

William Black, 1784-1873, age 89, died January 28, father of the great Black family and grandfather of 81 mighty citizens. He and his three sons arrived on the Virgin in November, 1861. The lands were all claimed in the Rockville area so they stopped in Northrop and laid claim to some grazing lands. They probably camped there during the 40-day rain storm which ended in February, 1862. In the spring, the family moved to Springdale and joined the Petty clan. Each of the sons laid claim to some valuable agricultural lands and settled down.

In 1862, William Black was 78 years old, too old to start farming in a new country. In 1869, William moved to Rockville where he spent his last four years.

George, the oldest son, with his 12 children, soon moved to Kanosh where he died in 1873.

William V., 1832-1927, with his two wives and 23 children, moved to Deseret where he lived the rest of his life. This writer knew just one of his children, George A. Black who later became his uncle. George was killed by the Mexicans in 1908. This writer heard the shots that killed him.

Joseph Smith Black, 1836-1910, four wives and 37 children. He moved to Deseret in 1874 where he served as Bishop for 14 years. (see page 295).

### 1874 - The United Order

The people of Enoch were very righteous. None have equaled them since. Their success in living the

## History of Rockville

United Order was their individual capacity to obey the gospel and live its standards. When Joseph Smith organized the restored church in 1830 his aim was to ultimately restore the order of Enoch prior to the Second Coming of Christ. Joseph Smith made two attempts to create the order, first in Jackson County in 1831 and later in Kirtland, Ohio. These experiments failed because the new converts were not prepared to live the higher law.

When Brigham Young arrived in the Valley, the United Order was a dream he hoped to achieve. The opportunity came in 1874 when he spent the winter (1873-1874) in St. George. The pioneers whom he had called to Dixie in 1861 represented the cream in the church. Only the righteous had received the call to settle Dixie. With this high quality of Saints, Brigham felt he could make a test of the Enoch institution. He spent the winter studying the plan for a united order. He concluded an Enoch government would work out in Dixie. His plan provided for a communal system wherein the products of all industries produced in a community were to be used for the common good of all members who joined the union. At a Stake Conference held February 15, 1874, he out-lined his plans for an Order to be established in each ward. After a full explanation he asked his hearers to indicate by a show of hands if they were willing to join such an organization. A majority responded favorably. He then asked for a show of hands who were opposed to the plan. Not one hand went up. He then asked for those who wanted to join the Order to come forward and sign their names indicating a request for membership in the organization. In a final appeal he issued a challenge :  
"If we are disposed to enter the Order of Enoch, now is the appropriate time. ... But if we are not disposed to enter this Order, the curse of God will come upon this people. ... The time has come for this work to begin."

## 1874 - The United Order

The people had but one choice : join or be cursed. Half the people in the Stake joined. The rest were left floating in space. At the meeting, 300 persons came forward and signed up. Some were from Rockville. Their objective : "Equality in temporal things."

Sixteen days later, March 5, President Young was in Rockville where he organized Rockville's United Order which included its three branches. Bishop Charles N. Smith was sustained as its President with William Brundage and William R. Crawford as his assistants; James P. Terry, ward director and Henry Jennings, Secretary. Half the people of the ward and its branches, joined the order. That was the cause of its greatest weakness. Lack of unity proved its final un-doing.

The most difficult responsibility fell on the work director. All farmers in the order worked under his direction some of whom were more experienced than he - a source of friction later. Upon his shoulders rested the responsibility of all work assignments. That required the ability of a master planner. To achieve his aims he had to be thoroughly acquainted with the needs and problems on every farm. He was harassed by the presence of non-members whose farms were adjacent to members, making it awkward to make work assignments. The water master also ran into complications in assigning water privileges to both members and non-members. The non-members were like dogs in the manger- real trouble makers. They refused to take orders from the water master, many fights resulted. Conflicts between the two groups led to serious complications. The responsibility was too great for one work director to handle.

October 1, the Order was incorporated, new rules were adopted. All members pledged strict economy and agreed to do all their trading within the order.

In the St. George Stake there were 15 Orders, all supervised by the Stake Presidency.

## History of Rockville

The people on the upper Virgin were well aware of the conflict between the Saints and their enemies, the Liberal party of Utah. The anti-Mormon members of Congress were responsible for the passage of the Poland Act, June 23, 1874, which reduced Utah to the status of a Russian slave camp. Utahns objected to this tyrannical legislation and appealed to Congress for statehood which was denied.

The anti-Mormon Governor, George L. Woods, was removed in December, and a more friendly governor put in his place, his name - Axtell. But the latter proved to be too friendly to the Mormons, so President Grant fired him too.

### 1875 - Grant Fires Judge

In Allen J. Stout's Journal for 1875 he reported the progress and achievements of the United Order during the year :

"There were 4,392 pounds of cotton grown, 9,000 pounds of sweet potatoes, 1200 gallons of molasses produced, 1,000 bushels of corn. Other products were beans, Irish potatoes, fruits and grapes."

That first full year the Order was in operation it was successful. Many members were strong supporters of the Order and were determined to see the experiment succeed.

Brigham Young's divorce from his 19th wife caused a sensation throughout the entire world. When the judge illegally sentenced Young to 24 hours in jail for failure to pay alimony, President Grant removed the judge from office for acts : "Tyrannical and in excess of his powers as a judge". The judge's great mission to destroy Brigham had failed.

The trial of John D. Lee shocked Rockville to its foundations. They were thankful the evidence did not implicate the church.

## 1875 - Grant Fires Judge

The people of Rockville made a survey of all assets and profits at the end of 1875 and came up with the startling fact that each member had earned 65 cents per day and that his capital investment had amounted to 7%.

## 1876 - Failure of the Order

The order had been in operation part of 1874 and all of 1875. By the end of 1875 it was considered a success. As the new year arrived, the people in Rockville were determined to make a success of the experiment. The cream of Utah's population had been called to the southern mission to establish a "New Jerusalem". It was Young's dream that a new city of Enoch could be founded there.

In the city of Enoch conditions were ideal. No opposition parties existed, no apostates to disturb the peace. Brigham hoped to duplicate those conditions in Dixie. But he was sadly disappointed. Only two orders were really successful, Orderville and Bunkerville - met his hopes. The St. George Order proved to be a monstrous failure. In Rockville, if all its members had been as loyal as Allen J. Stout, the order would have been a great success. In spite of its lack of unity, Rockville managed to survive till the end of 1876.

Utahns were a free people, they resented pressures. Freedom to join or not to join, was a right every citizen demanded. It was therefore impossible to force the people into the order. Another weakness in the order was the option each applicant had when he joined was the right to withhold the property, personal or real, which he chose to keep for himself, when he entered the order. He therefore only donated those goods of least value to him. That proved to be a serious weakness in the system. Many controversies resulted from that defect. A wiser plan was

## History of Rockville

to require all applicants to membership to donate all their property, real or personal. That plan would have avoided future disasters.

When the new year (1876) arrived, the Rockville members were convinced that reforms were needed. The objectives of the order were generally approved by the average member but he realized the methods of achieving those objectives had caused numerous irritations. A new plan was proposed in which all property was returned to its original owner who was given a stewardship over that property. The owner then returned a portion of the profits back to the order, called a tith, an income for the order. It was not made clear what percentage was considered satisfactory.

Under the new system adopted for 1876, the plan worked out very well. As the year came to an end the people of Rockville lost their enthusiasm for the system which gradually died before the year ended. A general weakness in human nature was responsible for its gradual death.

## 1877 - Sinners and Saints

Rockville had its share of both Saints and sinners. Those who joined the Order were solicitous and agreeable. Those who refused to join were sour and uncooperative. The Territory of Utah was also full of sinners and saints. The sinners were violently opposed to statehood, while the saints were applying for statehood. The sinners were bitterly opposed to polygamy while the saints were practicing polygamy.

There were 15 United Order organizations in the St. George Stake. The weakest order in the stake was at St. George. There was a good reason for this failure. That Order had too many sinners and not enough real saints.

## 1877 - Sinners and Saints

These sinners were very hostile to the organization. Brigham Young was well aware of the situation and suffered greatly because of it. In anguish, he had cried, quoted by the Journal History, April 6 :

"If the leaders had themselves been more forward in practicing the principles of the United Order, the masses of the people would be more completely organized."

In sadness, he had witnessed the decadence of the order. The dying order affected the health of Brigham who died as a result of the order's death. Some of the Order's worst enemies were prominent church officials in St. George who called the Order, so much "Priestcraft".

Since 1868, Grafton had been a branch of the Rockville ward. During those nine years, Grafton had increased in population. In 1877 the Stake Presidency reorganized the branch into a ward with Alonzo H. Russell as Bishop. He had been serving as Elder since 1868.

## 1878 - Bunkerville and Orderville

The Sinners in St. George were responsible for the failure of the St George United Order which died in March.

At least there were two outstanding successful Orders in the Dixie area. They were Bunkerville and Orderville. The members of those two wards were above average in character and integrity.

1878 was one of the wettest seasons the upper Virgin had enjoyed for years. Unlike 1877, which was a great drough, 1878, made it possible to harvest a heavy crop of grains and fruit.

## 1879 - Barbarian Judges

1879 was a crucial year for the polygamists on the upper Virgin. The sinners in Congress had enacted a law in 1862, known as the Morrill Act which prohibited polygamy in the Territories. The Mormons believed this act was unconstitutional because it violated the Constitution. The Territorial courts of Utah, which were controlled by the Liberal party, sustained the act as constitutional. The case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1876. For two years the people of Utah were in suspense. Finally, January 6, 1879, the barbarian judges killed the Constitution of the United States. The decision was not based on the Constitution, legal law, logic, justice or propriety, instead, it was based on expediency, fear and social convention. On that day a polygamous marriage was defined by the court as an "overt act", an act against the peace and good order of the community, and in "violation of social duties". These accusations the Mormons believed, were untrue. The Mormons claimed these acts did not disturb the peace nor violate social duties.

The barbarian judges claimed the act of 1862 was "within the legislative power of Congress". Which means that Congress had the power to make laws against marriage in the territories. That assumption was contrary to the Constitution.

The powers of the federal Congress are delegated, not inherent. Only powers specifically granted by the Constitution can be exercised by Congress. Nowhere in the Constitution is Congress given "exclusive dominion", over society - much less over marriage and divorce. Where in the Constitution is it "prescribed that plural marriage shall not be allowed?" This was a false assumption. A man's professed beliefs about religion is no business of Congress for the Constitution does not grant to Congress a right to interfere. The logical



### 1879 - Barbarian Judges

conclusion, therefore, is that man's belief in religion is supreme, the courts to the contrary notwithstanding. The U.S. Supreme Court, if it had been maned by men of honor and not by biased fanatics, a different decision would have been handed down.

The decision prompted Wilford Woodruff to ask :

"Who shall we obey, God or Man ?"

The people of Rockville decided to obey God.

### 1880 - A Heinous Crime

The people of Rockville and Springdale were stunned and sadden by the cruel murder of Mary Parker, April 23, near Rockville. Her absence was not noticed for two days after her disappearance from home. When the discovery was made, a crowd gathered near her home. Search parties were organized to comb the hills. One of these groups found her body high up in the rocks, dead, her throat cut, the body poorly covered up by tree limbs. One of the men in the search party admitted seeing the woman two days earlier walking toward the hills. He was subjected to intense questioning which revealed too many inconsistencies in his story. He contradicted himself several times, thus putting himself under suspicion. The suspect's name - Jered Dalton, age 22, son of John Dalton, a polygamist with five wives and 17 children. John Dalton, the father of Jered, was an exemplary leader in the community and a pillar in the church. The scandal was more than Rockville could endure. To the embarrassment of his brothers and sisters, Jered was arrested, a humiliation that brought sorrow and anguish to his family. They suffered a gruesome period of agony and remorse.

May 3, a coroner verdict before the Justice of the Peace, John Langston, ruled she was killed by having her throat cut and blows to the head. All the available evidence pointed to the guilt of Jered Dalton. A month

## History of Rockville

later, June 16, the Deseret News reported that Dalton had accused George Jennings, age 25, as his accomplice in the crime. Jered insisted that George had cut her throat, but this charge was repudiated by David F. Stout who produced evidence that exonerated Jennibgs. Meanwhile, Jered was taken to Toquerville and placed in jail to await action by the grand jury.

Dalton, having failed to implicate George Jennings, tried a new stratagem by accusing Samuel Parker of complicity in the crime, but that was shown to be futile since Samuel was working in Nevada at the time.

When Dalton realized all was lost, he changed his plea to "not guilty", and was taken to Beaver, where on September 12, trial was set for September 19.

September 27, 1971, this writer searched the law archives at the Beaver Court house only to discover the Dalton case had been removed from its proper filing box. Some one interested in the case had illegally destroyed the court record. It can easily be assumed that Dalton was tried before a weak judge who gave him less than six years. Jered was living in Ogden in 1886 where he married and was the father of two sons. He died December 14, 1928. He had no mercy on poor Mary Parker but he expected and got too much mercy from the court. He should have been executed with prejudice.

During that hectic year, another brand of injustice was being inflicted against the people of Rockville and all Utahns. The people on the upper Virgin were deeply involved in the election for a Delegate to Congress. The Liberals nominated Allen G. Campbell, a dedicated Liberal. The People's party chose George Q. Cannon for a fifth term. The November election returns gave Cannon a 1 to 18 ratio in the Territory while in Rockville it was a 42 to 0 ratio. Cannon's total vote was 18,568, Campbell's 1,357 which the Liberals called a "majority". Naturally, Campbell's pride was rudly injured. He protested to Governor Murray

## 1880 - A Heinous Crime

alleging Cannon's victory was obtained by fraud. Murray was highly sympathetic to Campbell's claim. Campbell had the audacity to claim he received more legal votes than Cannon. His grounds were :

First, Cannon being an unnaturalized alien was ineligible to election. Second, being a polygamist who taught polygamy, he was ineligible to be naturalized, and third, since woman suffrage was illegal in Utah, Cannon's majority was void, therefore, Campbell alleged, the votes cast for Cannon were illegal. That made Campbell the winner of the election.

These unsupported accusations were all untrue. Since Cannon could not take his seat without the signed certificate, the controversy was unresolved as the year ended.

The year 1880 was a census period. The five towns on the upper Virgin all increased during the ten year period :

Grafton - 71	Springdale - 50
Rockville - 232	Virgin - 254
Shonesburh - 82	Washington County - 4,235.

## 1881 - Murray's Treachery

The friction begun in 1880 was highly intensified in 1881. The election results of the previous November was an extremely hot issue. The ctisis boiled over January 8, when Governor Murray committed treason against the government. The severe defeat given Campbell by Cannon drove the imposter and his stooge, Governor Murray, into committing greater violations of the law. Unable to act within the law, the Governor acted against the law. January 8, Murray issued to Allen G. Campbell a Certificate of Election. That act was a violation of his oath of office and and act against the Constitution of the United

## History of Rockville

States. The Certificate to Campbell read as follows :

"I , Ely H. Murray, Governor of Utah, do declare and certify that at the regular election for Delegate to the 47th Congress, held Monday November 2, 1880, returns thereof were opened in my presence by the Secretary of the Territory, Allen G. Campbell was the person having the greatest number of votes was therefore duly elected as Delegate from said Territory to said Congress."

Signed : Eli H. Murray, January 8, 1881.

This was the greatest lie ever uttered by a human being.

The world was shocked by this declaration. Imagine a governor calling 1,357 votes more than 18,568! In comparison to Murray, Benedict Arnold was an angel. His notorious treachery will live in infamy as Utah's blackest day in history.

Imagine the reaction in Rockville. The majority saw Murray's act as a heinous crime against democracy. This falsehood rocked Rockville who had voted against Campbell by a 42 to 0 vote. That was a fair comparison with other communities in Utah. The Tribune editor fully justified Murray, said he : "Murray can only issue certificates to Americans." To make Murray's case look more ridiculous,(if that was possible) Murray had issued the Certificate to Campbell after Cannon had submitted his certificate of citizenship to Murray which proved Cannon was just as much an American citizen as Campbell or Murray. This action had no effect on Murray, he still denied Cannon was a real citizen. The Governor's crime had an adverse affect on political morality in Utah. Murray's treasonable act encouraged the Liberals to demand that Utah's Legislative Assembly be abolished and a commission be appointed by the President to rule Utah. This request was denied. The contest for the seat in the House was unresolved as 1881 passed into history.

## 1882 - Gloom at Rockville

Since the treachery of Murray in 1881, when he issued the bogus certificate of election to Campbell whom he alleged won a majority of votes over Cannon, the controversy was elevated to national importance. The entire nation, press, pulpit and politician, had joined the debate. Even the people of Rockville were cursing Murray for calling 1,357 more than 18,568. A deliberate falsehood which characterized the man. The enemies of Utah, stunned by Murray's act, knowing he was wrong, tried to justify his crime, sought revenge by pressuring Congress to enact legislation that would extirpate polygamy, root and branch. In obedience to their cries, the bellicose Congress, under the evil leadership of Senator Edmunds, proposed an unconstitutional bill that denied the franchise, service on a jury, and the right to hold civil office to citizens in Utah. Edmunds knew that beliefs alone could not disqualify a person from exercising those rights, that's why he included the penalties in the bill.

This heinous legislation was passed by the Senate, February 16, and by the House, March 14 by a 199 to 42 vote. It was this action that inflamed the people in Rockville to a new high. February 26, the people inspired by patriotism, rushed to the church building and held a spirited mass meeting. The speakers vehemently condemned Congress for its dishonorable violation of the Constitution of the United States. All agreed that the Edmunds act was the most contemptible piece of legislation ever enacted by a civilized nation. Its aims were unscrupulously perfidious. Not since the days of King John had a government fallen so low. To label its actions bellicose would be too generous. A majority of its members were a pack of hypocrites. These scoundrels were too weak to resist mob pressure.

The passage of the Edmunds act put Cannon's seat in jeopardy. The act prohibited all polygamists from holding

## History of Rockville

any civil office in the federal service.

When Congress convened in January, the committee on Territories spent 15 days debating the Cannon-Campbell contest. Finally, three resolutions were passed. The first denied the seat to Campbell, the second denied a seat to Cannon, and the third declared the seat vacant. The committee made two admissions, first that Cannon's citizenship claims were genuine and that he received a majority of the votes. That admission should have settled the issue decisively, but the Edmunds act stood in the way. That dishonorable act disqualified Cannon from serving in the House. All polygamists were barred from the civil service. The committee reported its findings to the floor where 57 days were spent digesting its contents. April 20, a vote was taken, Cannon lost by a 123 to 79 vote. Cannon was permitted to make one last speech. Said he :

" I pity anyone, who, with nothing to sustain him but popular sentiment, is willing to trample the Constitution and the law to strike down a people against whom popular sentiment is strong."

The Rockville reaction to Cannon's ouster was swift and startling. These honest citizens saw clearly that the federal government aimed to convert Utah into a police state where carpetbaggers reigned supreme. They realized that the only remedy for such a mess was statehood. A resolution was presented to the Utah Legislative Assembly which was then in session calling for a constitutional convention to frame a state constitution. The people in the upper Virgin elected Bishop Charles N. Smith as their representative in the convention which met April 10. The session lasted 17 days. They chose May 22 as referendum day. On that day the people were asked to accept or reject the new constitution which they had written. Rockville approved the new constitution by a vote of 44 to 0. The total vote in Utah was 27,814 for, and 498 against. Accordingly, the document and a memorial was submitted to

## 1882 - Gloom at Rockville

Congress in December. Senator Sanders of Nebraska introduced a bill December 20, for the admission of Utah as a State. A prejudiced Congress completely ignored both the memorial and the bid for statehood. Polygamy was the reason.

Returning to the Edmunds act, that statute had declared all elective offices in Utah vacant. It was provided that these positions would be filled in the November election.

After the appointment of the five Commissioners and their arrival in Utah in August, these new rulers first set a date for all eligible voters to register for the election. Each prospective voter had to declare under oath that he was not, nor ever had been, a polygamist. The total number who registered was 32,421, in Washington County there were 1,192. In Rockville the number is not known, but the estimate was 43. September 11 to 16 was selected as registration dates.

An election to choose a Delegate to Congress was planned for November. The Liberals selected P.T. Van Zile, while the People's party chose John T. Caine. The Liberals received 4,884 votes, while Caine received 23,037, a majority of 18,155. Washington County gave Zile 219, and Caine, 752. In Rockville, Zile got no votes, while Caine received 43. At Silver Reef, a mining town, Zile received 209, while Caine got 16., the only town in Dixie where the Liberals won.

This was the voting pattern in Dixie during the next ten years.

## 1883 - Angels and Devils

The crucial years following the passage of the Edmunds act tested the character of every citizen in Rockville. All were morally obligated to take a stand for or against the legislation. No hedging was tolerated. All



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Utahns were either Mormons or anti-Mormons, angels or devils, saints or sinners, for or against the Edmunds act. Indeed, a real war existed in Utah. Her best citizens were crying for peace.

The Edmunds act was based on minority rule which explains Rockville's voting record. The anti-Mormon crusade in Utah aimed to Americanize and civilize the Mormon people. The act was tested in the August elections which prohibited polygamists from voting or seeking a seat in the Legislative Assembly. That election proved to be a great surprise to all - even the Mormons. The Liberals did not win one seat in the Assembly which was to meet in January, 1884. This sweeping victory for the People's candidates caused a sensation in the nation. It had been expected that the disfranchisement of all polygamists would have insured a large majority for the Liberals in the session coming up. This shocking defeat emphasized the complete failure of the Edmunds law which now lay in ashes.

The August election in Rockville was also a surprise. The two Liberal candidates for the Assembly in Washington County received no votes in Rockville, while the People's candidates each received 46 votes. Rockville had really entered the war against the Devils. Edmundsism had completely failed on the Virgin.

### 1884 - A Real Bear Story

January 24 the County Court appointed David F. Stout as Justice of the Peace for Rockville.

In March, the Legislative Assembly changed a few county boundry lines in southern Utah. The boundry line between Kane and Washington counties was changed. The upper Virgin Valley was taken from Kane County and given to Washington. Henceforth, all the towns on the Virgin



## 1884 - A Real Bear Story

were transferred to Washington County. The new county seat for Kane was moved to Kanab where it should have been in the first place.

The members of the Rockville Ward met and decided to build a new church. A committee was appointed to supervise its construction.

The members of the Legislative Assembly which had been elected in August, 1883, convened in January. The Edmunds act of 1882 had provided that this law making body must enact legislation that would implement the election provisions of the Edmunds law. This legislation was expected to include anti-polygamy provisions which would reinforce federal law. Would the Assembly succumb to the pressure and obey Congress or enact laws demanded by their own constituents? The members of that body had been elected on platforms adopted by the People's party. Why should they submit to policies dictated by a government who aimed to crush them? The Assembly was addressed by Governor Murray who warned them that the Edmunds act insisted that anti-polygamy legislation be enacted promptly. "Utah", said he, "must be Americanized." His listeners, were all Mormons, but not polygamists, refused to pass any legislation hostile to polygamy. This refusal profoundly disturbed Murray. The Utah Commissioners were also offended. Senator Edmunds was furious when he heard the news. Regaining control, he admitted the complete failure of his deception. Polygamy had not been "extirpated", Mormon "Theocracy" had survived, persecution could not destroy the "twin relic". The August election had ended the illusion that disfranchising the polygamists would enable the Liberals to gain control of the Assembly and destroy polygamy and break the power of the Mormon church. The people of Rockville were highly gratified by the success of the Assembly.

July 10, the judges of the November election were appointed by the Utah Commission. They were : George w. Terry, James H. Jennings, James P. Terry, Frank Slaughter

## History of Rockville

and David F. Stout.

The Deseret News for July 29 reported a battle between a large bear and two Rockville hunters high up in the mountains north of Rockville. John and Alfred Stout, ages 21 and 33. These men had been tracking the bear for hours, when suddenly, the angry beast turned to face his enemies, a fight ensued. The antagonists were soon locked in a life and death struggle. The bear made a mad rush for Alfred who quickly fired his gun, but only slightly wounding the beast. John also fired his gun with little effect. The bear sank his teeth into Alfred's knee, apparently enjoying it, while Alfred employed his own tactics. He thrust his knee into the bear's mouth with all the strength he had. He held it there by force. In desperation, he called to John to shoot the right bear - "not me". John finally did, causing the bear to fall dead at his feet. Alfred managed to pull his knee out of the bear's mouth, a very unpleasant ordeal. The knee was permanently injured which caused him to walk with a limp the rest of his life. Like all bear stories, the heroes won.

September 19, a Republican rally was held in Rockville where candidate John T. Caine was the speaker. He related his hectic experience fighting for his seat in the House. His opponent, Mr. Van Zile, had falsely charged that he was a polygamist. The accuser was ordered to prove his accusation, that the bogus politician could not do. Caine was favorably received at the mass meeting where he left an excellent impression.

John T. Caine's first term as Delegate to Congress was due to expire, March 4, 1885. The election for a new term would be held in November. The Liberals held their convention, October 9, and nominated Ransford Smith as Delegate. The People's convention met October 8 and re-nominated John T. Caine. The campaign became a war of words. The election was even louder. Smith received 2,215 votes,

## 1884 - A Real Bear Story

Caine, 22,120. In Washington County, Smith received 50 votes, while Caine got 660. The most important votes were cast in Rockville where Caine received 40, and poor Smith got none! But Smith could crow over the votes he received in two towns, namely : in Silver Reef he won, 45 to 10, and in Park City his score was 173 to 23.

The election of a Democratic Cleveland gave Rockville new hope that Republican tyranny might some day end. But President Arthur's appointment in the previous July of Judge Zane killed these hopes. This judge proved to be the most tyrannical judge ever sent to Utah. His ruthless use of the open venire and his segregation rulings destroyed all hope for judicial reform.

## 1885 - A Reign of Terror

From the Journal of David F. Stout, January, 1885, the state of political affairs is well described in the Rockville area, said he : " Extraordinary efforts of our enemies to put down the practice of plural marriage, ... and if it were possible to destroy it from off the earth."

This quote agrees with an editorial in the Deseret News which describes the tensions in the southern towns, the editor adds :

" Peaceful domiciles have been raided under color of law, spies have lurked around pleasant homes, wives and little children have been forced before inquisitious and brow beaten by brutal attorneys. Women have been incarcerated with vendictive severity because they would not betray their husbands or divulge the fathers of their offspring. Judges have poured out their spleen in flagrant insults upon defenseless victims. The law has received

## History of Rockville

special interpretation to inflict penalties on peaceul citizens. Virtuous men and women have been the objects of vexatious persecutions, while the vilest of proven offenders against law and chastity have been set free without rebuke. Falsehood and misrepresentation have run riot, and the pulpit, and the press have continued to malign the Saints and prejudice the public. Violation of their natural and political rights has been advocated and attempted. Their pleas for a fair hearing and impartial investigation have been scoffed at and denied."

This was a reign of terror. The evil devils found that enforcing the Edmunds law within the limits of the constitution was a noble idea, but it was weak medicine against polygamy. In despair the judges moved to find a remedy powerful enough to smash polygamy. Several remedies were tried. The first was the open venire tried first against Clawson. Another, the faked conspiracy charge first used against Hampton. The open venire fraud proved so successful it created an appetite for more blood and still more blood until the habit could not be broken. These wicked frauds were sustained by Utah's Supreme Court. These actions disgraced America's judicial system. America's greatest blunder was the invention of the segregation crime. When penalties became "too lenient" many penalties were added to the same indictment. By the end of 1885, Americanism had been replaced by "Jeffreyism".

Within a year after Judge Zane had taken office, 83 innocent men had been illegally indicted and 23 others convicted. Thus the judicial reign of terror was in full operation. This campaign against the polygamists, however, did not reach Rockville until 1888.

Since prosecutions had degenerated into persecutions, Utahns decided to petition President Cleveland by listing all the grievances suffered by her citizens resulting - not from the Edmunds act - but from the interpretations placed on that act by the courts. This "Declaration of Griev-

## 1885 - A Reign of Terror

ances" was presented to President Cleveland, May 13. Several in Rockville had signed that petition. The President proved too weak to take any action on the petition. He knew that fifty million angry citizens were ready to lynch him if he compromised with the polygamy "evil". Cleveland did promise that men of character would be appointed to administer justice in Utah, a promise he failed to keep. He allowed the "god of justice", Judge Zane, to remain in office three more years. As long as Judge Zane remained in office, the open venire and segregation plagued the people. Utah's hope that the new Democratic administration would end the persecutions against all Utahns was a forlorn dream. Instead, the Democrats proved more tyrannical than the Republicans had been.

The August elections chose the members of the 1886 Legislative Assembly. As usual, the disfranchised polygamists were not allowed to vote. Still the People's candidates received 21,626 votes, the Liberals, 1,795. The Liberals elected one Representative to the House, the first in Utah history. The winner was from Park City, where Liberals were in a majority. The Liberals called it a major victory. In Rockville there were no Liberals so the results of the election was a different story.

In contrast to the wars between the angels and the devils was an item published in the Deseret News, Vol. 34, p. 673 :

" The Cooperative Store at Rockville collected 36,000 pounds of dried fruit and sent it to Salt Lake City where it was sold."

The fruit trees of Rockville were not affected by the judicial reign of terror.

1886 - Exit, A Tyrant

The citizens of Rockville were shocked by Governor Murray's obstreperous threat against the Assembly to enact prohibitive legislation against polygamy or suffer annihilation by the sword. This was coercion in its rawest forms. The threat caused a sensation in Rockville where, in a mass meeting, a memorial protesting the enactment of the pending Edmunds-Tucker act was strongly opposed. The memorial (April 25), pleaded for a redress of grievances committed by the Governor and the unjust prosecutions by the federal judges. Many communities in Utah followed the lead of Rockville and vehemently protested these wrongs.

Utah's Assembly also reacted strenuously against Murray's insistence that polygamy be destroyed or exterminate the Mormons. All Utah was alarmed. Tensions reached the boiling point. The Tribune added fuel to the fire by pouring venom on the flames :

" Either the church must surrender or the government will sink into oblivion."

A crisis was reached when the Governor spitefully insulted the legislators by vetoing three major bills, namely, the jury bill, one dealing with bail and the appropriation measure. These vetoes were the last straw. These actions profoundly aroused the indignation of President Cleveland who promptly fired Murray, March 15.

Prior to these events, the Assembly had submitted a memorial to Cleveland fully giving the causes of the conflict, News, June 16, p. 16 :

" Murray has openly advocated the disruption of the Territory by depraving its citizens of every vestige of local government, ...and has persistently abused, insulted and maligned the majority in private, in public documents and through the medium of the press. By the most atrocious falsehoods, by attempted usurpations, by insolent messages, he has sought to provoke a conflict between the people and the Federal authority, which he claims to represent."

Just one person in Utah was saddened by Murray's downfall. That person was the Tribune editor and his

## 1886 - Exit, A Tyrant

pals. The rest of the people in Utah were all screaming for joy. Murray's war on the Mormons had failed.

The first Edmunds act had been too soft on the polygamists - if we can believe Edmunds himself. Beginning in late 1884, Edmunds spent a full year, revising and making more tough a bill that would destroy all future polygamists. Result, an act so tough that even the Devil could not escape its severe penalties. The evil Senate passed the wicked bill, January 8. It was promptly sent to the House where it was given a new name, the contemptible "Tucker" act. After months of wrangling, Senator Call gave it a new name : "The Spanish Inquisitions", a most appropriate title.

Since the new administration in Washington was Democratic, the people of Rockville were hopeful that a clean sweep of Republican carpet-baggers would be made. Cleveland made a good start by ousting Murray, the tyrant, but biggest carpet-bagger was still on the payroll, the untouchable, Chief Justice, Charles S. Zane, author of segregation, the most nauseating Mormon hater of all times. Cleveland could not touch him since his four year term was only half over.

In the November election the Liberals were soundly defeated. In Rockville they did not receive one vote. John T. Caine received all 39 votes. In Washington County, it was a different story. Ferry, the Liberal candidate, received 50 votes, while Caine was honored with 678. Of the 50 votes for Ferry, 49 of those votes were cast in Silver Reef, a predominantly non-Mormon town. Who cast that extra vote ?

The People's convention in October adopted two very important resolutions, quoted from the News, October 20.

" Any effort of the government to manage church property is a violation of the First Amendment and is practically a union of church and state. We believe that Utah is entitled to sovereign statehood. Her citizens



## History of Rockville

have an equal right to a free government. The national Congress is bound by every consideration of equity and lawful precedent, to remove the chains of Territorial bondage from Utah. ... The failure of Congress to recognize this right has propagated a hideous train of events, from which the land can never be freed while this political wrong continues."

The people of Rockville had been suffering from this monstrous injustice since 1862. Congress and hostile presidents were responsible for Utah's failure to achieve statehood which would have corrected these evils. Is it any wonder that none of the Liberal candidates ever received one vote from the people of the upper Virgin?

Allen J. Stout, age 71, was a keen observer of current affairs. April 25, he wrote that :

" The Saints are being persecuted and sent to prison, because they will not renounce their religion."

Seven months later, he noted that the marshals had not raided Rockville, November 18 :

" The marshals are making raids on the settlements and arresting men and putting their women under bonds to appear as witnesses. ... They have not yet come to our village."

.....

### 1887 - The Rockville Choir

Hosea F. Stout was Rockville's music leader. He was in charge of the ward choir for many years.

The photograph below shows Hosea as the leader.

Names given below :

Hosea F. Stout, Choir director, from 1870-1892

Alice Maud Hall Langston, Organist.

Myra Hall Lemmon and Mary Stout Hirschi.



1887 - Rockville Ward Choir



Second row : Phebe Farns Langston, Zelfhia Petty Hirschi,  
1 to r Clarinda Stout Flanigan, Fanny B. Terry,  
Sarah Ann Smith, Clarinda L. Stout, Fanny S.  
Terry, Adelia H. Dalton, and Rose Cox.

3rd row : Laura L. Dalton, Mariah Terry, Zella Dozzette  
Smith, Dency Terry, Alice L. Dalton.

4th row : John Stout, Jacob Langston, Frank Slaughter,  
Vilate Dalton Draper, Sarah Slaughter, and  
Huldah (age 15) Stout.

1887 - An Evil Crusade

Allen J. Stout wrote in his Journal, March 30, " that the enemy is still busy trying to imprison and harass the Saints."

That indeed, was the mission of the crusader's in 1887. "Destroy polygamy, root and branch, and drive the Mormons out of Utah." A law, one year in preparation, was ready to be hurled at Utah with all the horrors of the " Spanish Inquisition." The previous year had witnessed an alarming increase in the number of indictments for alleged violation of a devil inspired statute. These indictments had failed to intimidate the citizens into submitting to tyranny. These counterfeit crusaders for "morality" believed the church was responsible for the people's attitude. The new crusade coined a new slogan : " No church, no polygamy", meaning, destroy the church (the creator of polygamy) and the problem is solved. But the crusaders could not destroy the church, it was too strong. The irrepressible conflict burst into flames.

The imminent passage of the Edmunds act alarmed John T. Caine who reacted, vehemently, quoted by the News, February 2, pp. 2-4 :

" The measure is intended to suppress the Mormon church and place its property in the hands of a receiver. Mankind will in due time condemn such legislation as wrong in theory, violative of fundamental and constitutional provisions, undemocratic and unamerican, and wantonly destructive of the dearest, most sacred rights of humanity. ... This bill rudely over-rides and sets at naught, the eternal, the immutable principles upon which the common rights of men are bottomed. ...

" This bill, if it becomes law, will place the Mormon people at the mercy of men whose object is first to plunder them of all earthly possessions, and drive them from their homes."

## 1887 - An Evil Crusade

Caine's speech fell on deaf ears. The majority in the House were so steeped in hate and acrimony that truth could not penetrate their skulls. The swine had no capacity to appreciate the pearls.

The Edmunds-Tucker act became law March 3 without Cleveland's signature. The legislation caused a sensation in Rockville. The enemies of the Mormons boasted that the new law would "grind Mormonism into powder." It was these wild threats that ignited a campaign of resistance. Mass meetings were held all over the Territory. The five towns on the upper Virgin were lively centers for protests. A county convention was held in St. George, June 25 where representatives from Rockville helped choose delegates to a Territorial convention, July 30 in Salt Lake City. This seven-day conference drafted a new constitution for the proposed State of Utah. The most controversial clause in that instrument was the prohibition against polygamy. This item caused a shock wave that echoed world-wide. That the Mormons could prohibit polygamy was unbelievable. The convention delegates were absolutely certain that such a prohibition would win statehood for Utah. Since 1872 Congress had repeatedly promised statehood if polygamy were prohibited. Could Congress keep its word? Many in Utah were from Missouri.

The new constitution prohibited the "union of church and state", no domination of the state by any church, and that only male citizens would be given the suffrage. The convention provided for a referendum to be held August 1 inviting the voters to approve or disapprove the proposed constitution. The response was gratifying. The vote was 13,195 for and 504 against. Washington County approved by a 454 majority, no record of a negative vote. In Rockville where there were only 21 persons registered, 18 approved, none against. In the other five Virgin towns, there were no negative votes. Grafton approved by 10; Duncan, 10; Shonesburg, 13; Springdale, 8; and Virgin, 34. In that same election, two local Rockville residents were

## History of Rockville

elected to office. Frank Slaughter was chosen Justice of Peace by 18 votes, and Jacob H. Langston (the first white child born in Rockville), was elected Constable by 17 votes.

Silver Reef, a mining town west of Leeds, was inhabited by non-Mormons who were in sympathy with the Edmunds act. These anti-Mormons were in alliance with the marshals who were seeking to arrest polygamists. A double spy system was in operation at the camp. The marshals used paid informers to seek out polygamists and report their location. The Stake Presidency used Mormon employees in mines to report when the marshals arrived in camp. When these church spies spotted these marshals, a code message was sent to St. George. All polygamists were warned. It proved to be an efficient organization, many a man was saved from arrest.

The Tucker act had confiscated all church real and personal property which amounted to \$807,666. The church was disincorporated, the Charter of the perpetual Emigration Fund was annulled, all persons involved in polygamy - men and women - were disfranchised, and made ineligible to hold office or serve as a witness, Women's suffrage abolished, all Territorial acts were annulled, the Nauvoo Legion abolished and a test oath enacted for those eligible to vote.

This was more than the people of Rockville could stomach. The Washington Star (D.C.) was also offended by the act, quoted by News, October 24, p. 8 :

" It is strange that men of education should imagine that taking from the Mormons their church property would have any effect upon a single feature of their religion. If the church were stripped of every vestige of wealth, if all its places of worship were destroyed, if it were left without a dollar of money would remain just as strong and united and full of force as before these suits were planted against it. Perhaps it would be stronger, more compact, more vigorous than now. The united faith, and devotion of its members are more cogent than money, and mightier

## 1887 - An Evil Crusade

than earthly possessions."

Few Mormons could state the problem more forcefully than had the Star. Indeed, the editorial plainly shows the irrepressible conflict had reached a climax.

The decision of the court caused a sensation in Rockville and all over Utah. Its people were appalled by the bigotry and infamy of the court. Utah was being plahued by the persecution of its own court. Utah's Supreme Court was given a new title : " Legalized Robbery, Incorporated."

The People's party in 1887 had drafted a new Constitution which prohibited polygamy. A majority of the Mormons in August, had approved that constitution which prohibited polygamy. Did that mean the Mormon church had abandoned polygamy as a doctrine ? The People's party was not the Mormon church. After the election John T. Caine publicly announced that polygamy was dead, but did the church officials agree with him ? Caine and other party leaders had pleaded with Woodruff to approve the ban on polygamy as proposed in the new constitution. If statehood had been approved by Congress and Utah admitted with polygamy baned in its constitution, the church officials would have been placed in a very precarious position. Under such a contingency, Utah's constitution would prohibit polygamy, the church leaders would be obligated to approve the constitution while at the same time condemn polygamy. In that case, confusion would wreck the peace of Utah. But that did not happen. Instead, as noted elsewhere, the church leaders ignored Caine by approving polygamy.

## 1888 - Bishop Smith Arrested

The Spanish inquisitions finally arrived in Rockville Allen J. Stout was highly disturbed by what he saw, recorded in his Journal for April 21 :

" The marshals are carrying the brothern off to

## 1888 - History of Rockville

prison, several were taken to St. George. The cops arrived in Rockville and took some prisoners to Silver Reef."

April 23, Allen continued : " They came again and took Fanny Slaughter."

Who were the men taken from Rockville ? The St. George Stake History for April 23 named the victims. All Rockville was shocked by the dasterdly drrd. The people were mourning when their Bishop, Charles N. Smith was led away in chains. Surely the world was coming to an end! An innocent man was being outraged by a pack of bigots. Smith, Bishop of Rockville for ten years, a polygamist whose character was unimpeachable was led away by contemptible scoundrels from the gutter. Two other valiant citizens were arrested and carried away. They were James P. Terry, who that day, returned from a two year mission, and his son, George W. Terry, age 29, husband of two wives. These three men were examined at Silver Reef and put under \$1500 bonds to appear at Beaver, May 11. On that date, The two Terrys were discharged for lack of evidence. Smith was tried but found innocent and discharged.

In all, 15 men in the Stake were arrested, including three more bishops. There were about 50 polygamists in the Dixie area, including 20 who lived on the upper Virgin Valley. Thanks to the efficient spy system directed by the Stake, the marshal raids were generally unsuccessful.

The marshals who conducted the raids in Washington County were incompetent and immoral. The Fanny Slaughter case supplies proof for this appraisal. She was brutally kidnapped, April 23, and taken to Silver Reef where charges of polygamy had to be dismissed for lack of evidence. The marshals suddenly discovered that women do not have more than one wife! Such ignorance was unbelievable. When their plot back-fired the scoundrels were enraged. The first wrong justified the committing of a second wrong. The marshals then falsely charged Fanny with

## 1888 - Bishop Smith Arrested

defrauding the United States Mails. A fake audit of the Post Office funds revealed a shortage of three pennies. That was the break the marshals wanted. She was therefore arrested for embezzlement of three pennies. The officers considered themselves fully vindicated. Here was a fair sample of the men sent to reform Utahns. The contemptible treatment of Fanny Sloughter by the judicial crusaders against the polygamists was a disgrace to any law enforcement agency. In this great conflict we witness two antagonists struggling for supremacy in Utah. It was the old contest between the two irrepressible forces, one side demanded obedience to law, the other insisted that no obedience to unconstitutional law is required by the constitution. These two concepts were irreconcilable. Unconstitutional laws are dead and void, it was alleged. This was the crucial issue in 1888.

The Mormon memorial of May, 1887, was finally submitted to the House, January 10, 1888, by John T. Caine. The enemies of Utah called it a "Monstrous blunder." The views of the anti-Mormons were stated by the Forum, May, 1888 :

" So great is the desire to obtain the sovereign powers of a state that they are willing to provide the strongest possible constitutional guarantees for the prohibition of polygamy. They offer to trade polygamy in exchange for statehood. In brief, Utah promises to give up polygamy if the United States will let Utah alone...

" The proposed constitution would prove to be a mere delusion. The people of Utah are unfit for statehood. Suffrage there is a farce. The Mormon is told by his bishop for whom he must vote, and he obeys."

The above is a sample of anti-Mormon sentiment in 1888. It explains why the Senate, March 26, unanimously denied statehood to Utah. The House was even more hostile, the memorial was completely ignored.

Late in June, the marshals made another raid on Rockville. The Journal of David F. Stout was authority



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for the fact that a warning was sent to Rockville that marshals were enroute. Two of David's wives got the message and hid in the corn field minutes before the officers arrived. The marshals serched the Stout home, not finding any adults, moved on. This was a narrow call for David. One of those women had become his fourth wife a few days earlier.

Meanwhile, John T. Caine had attempted to persuade the First Presidency to accept the proposed constitution which prohibited polygamy. But the church leaders refused to accept Caines views, instead, they ignored him and came out publicly for polygamy. In Woodruff's Journal for December 20, 1888 he stated the Twelve un-animously rejected all proposals for abandoning polygamy. That settled the polygamy issue, but not for long.

In Rockville, the judges of the August and Novemberelections were selected by the Utah Commission. They were : Hosea F. Stout, Frank Slaughter, and George A. Smith. In the August elwction, Allen J.F. Stout was elected Constable for Rockville.

The November election was interesting. The People's convention in October nominated John T. Caine for a fourth time as Delegate to Congress. The Liberals held their convention in Park City where delegates from ten counties were present. Robert Baskin was nominated. Since all the women in Utah had been disfranchised plus ten thousand polygamists, the Liberals had dreams of winning the election. The issue between the two parties was simple. The Liberals saw the issue as between the adherents of lawful civil government and those who were opposed. This was the first election where the Liberals were absolutely confident of victory. But they were doomed to be disappointed. Caine received 10,117, Baskin, 3,484 or 34%. This was the highest percentage that any Liberal candidate had ever received, so the party called it a "victory." The returns in Silver Reef



gave Caine 3 and Baskin 14. The returns for Rockville were lost in the scramble, but judging from past records, Caine received 39 (as in 1886) to 0 for Baskin.

Truly, the irrepressible conflict was very much aflame in Rockville.

### 1889 - Who Violated the Law ?

The new year looked ominous. The Spanish inquisitions in Utah was causing a lot of unnecessary suffering and persecution. The supreme aim of the Liberals was to "grind the Mormons into powder." The degree of October 8, 1888 had ruled that all church property, real and personal, was subject to confiscation. This was an illegal action which entitled the church to appeal to the highest court. This was done. January 14, arguments in the case were commenced by both sides. The main issue involved confiscation - was it constitutional ? Did Congress have the power to repeal the Territorial Charter which had incorporated the Church ? Did the court, acting under the authority of a statute, have the power to seize the property of a church and hold it for any purpose ? The church attorneys said "no". The government lawyers said "yes". The church contended that all three acts were unconstitutional and void. The charter was an executed contract which cannot be impaired either by dissolving the corporation or by limiting its rights in respect to the acquisition of property. That fact had been established in the Dartmouth College case in 1819, the two cases being identical. John Marshall had said that no legislative grant is revocable and cannot be repudiated - to do so would strike down one of the strongest and most precious bulwarks of civil and religious liberty. That is what the Utah Supreme court had already done in its decision of October 8, 1888. The prosecution in that case had rendered a judgment without a hearing, a seizure without a cause, and a escheat without the pretense of any authority of law.

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The Government having taken the affirmative position on the Edmunds-Tucker act was highly embarrassed since it knew the act was unconstitutional. The only procedure it could rationally follow was to pressure the court into declaring the Edmunds act constitutional. That was the only consistent stand it could take. The church, they insisted, must be destroyed legally if possible, but illegally if necessary. The court fight continued on this level during the remainder of 1889, both in the press, the pulpit and on the street.

The decision to discontinue polygamy came 16 months before the manifesto was issued. It is now clear that President Woodruff received the revelation to end polygamy in April, 1889. He made no public statement regarding the revelation until he issued the manifesto, September 24, 1890. The approximate time of the revelation is hinted at in the third paragraph of the manifesto. That statement shows that Woodruff was disturbed by the news that a man had violated his instructions and taken a plural wife in the Endowment House. This act irritated Woodruff who promptly ordered the Endowment House torn down (November 1, 1889). This action implies that the decision to stop issuing permits for plural marriages was taken prior to the demolition of the Endowment House. The man who had violated Woodruff's instructions was Hans Jespersen of Goshen, Utah. He had married his plural wife, September 8, 1889. He was convicted of polygamy, October 10, just a month after the wedding. This court case explains how Woodruff became aware of the marriage.

One month after the manifesto was issued, Woodruff was interviewed by a representative of the St Louis Globe, quoted by the Herald, October 27, p. 11 :

Question : " What is the church position on polygamy ?"

Woodruff : " We have no thought of evading or ignoring polygamy. We mean to obey it. We recognize the laws as binding upon us. I have refused to give any

1889 - Who Violated the Law ?

recommendations for the performance of plural marriage since I have been President." (He became President April 7, 1889).

That settles the controversy. The revelation to end plural marriages was received April 7, 1889, or earlier. The day he was sustained as President.

The struggle for supremacy between the two political parties was a hectic one. The People's party was fighting for its dear life. Its ranks depleted by the provisions of the Edmunds act, unfair rulings on registration, gerry-mandering, had cut down the number of eligible voters. This made the odds nearly even.

Accordingly, the election for the Legislative Assembly, August 5, became very heated. In spite of Liberal attempts to rig the contest, the People's candidates won 28 seats, the Liberals, 8. The total number of votes cast for the People's candidates was 14,146, the Liberals received 6,130.

September 23, the Utah Commission made its regular hostile report to Washington which exposed its extreme animosity. Statistics on convictions were reported. From September, 1888 to September, 1889, there had been 357 convictions. The Commission could not resist offering advice to the Secretary and Congress. First, it was recommended that punishment for polygamy be made more severe. Mormon immigrants into America should be stopped. Women who voluntarily entered into polygamous families should be penalized. The report inspired the Tribune to issue a rebuke to the church, September 26, p. 2 :

" Unless theocracy and polygamy are ended the Mormons had better find a new home in the islands of the sea, for their troubles will continue to multiply until life becomes intolerable to them."

These insulting remarks justified the Mormons in a campaign to rid Utah of the Tribune gang, root and branch. Such garbage contaminated Utah. The out-burst was a sample of the vicious slanders vomited by the press and pulpit

## History of Rockville

against the Saints in a war for survival. The church authorities reacted by issuing an epistle to the world to correct the false impressions broadcast by the Tribune quoted by the Herald, December 15, p. 8 :

" We Solemnly Declare : That this church does not claom to be an independent, temporal kingdom of God, or to be an imperium imperio aiming to over-throw the United States or any other civil government. It has been organized by divine revelation preparatory to the second advent of the Redeemer. It proclaims that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Its members are commanded of God to be subject unto the powers that be until Christ comes, whose right it is to reign. ...

" We claim no religious liberty that we are unwilling to accord to others.

" We ask for no civil or political rights which are not granted and guaranteed to citizens in general....

" In the name of justice, reason and humanity, we ask for a suspension of national and popular judgment until a full investigation can be had and all the facts connected with what is called the Mormon question can be known. And we appeal to the Eternal Judge of all men and nations to aid us in the vindication of our righteous cause."

In strong language the Tribune editor rejected the Mormon plea for sanity, December 17, p. 2 :

" The appeal for a suspension of public opinion is merely a confession of a band of desperate priests in Utah, who, under the cloak of religion, assume the right to defy the laws, to enslave a people, degrade the American home and outrage civilization."

As expected, the epistle had no effect on the editor - pearls should never be offered to swine.

One of the most serious charges which the world constantly leveled against the Mormon people was their alleged refusal to obey the Edmunds-Tucker act. This resistance to law was treason in the eyes of the world which deserved severe punishment. Disobedience to a

# 1889 - Who Violated the Law ?

federal statute (the Edmunds Act) was bad enough, but disobedience to the Constitution (and its amendments) was a hundred times greater. The Fifteenth Amendment is equal to any part of the original constitution. The same people who condemned the Mormons for violating the Edmunds act, an ordinary statute, were guilty of violating the Fifteenth Amendment which is the Constitution. Which of the two is the greater violation ? The entire nation was guilty of violating the Fifteenth Amendment which gave the franchise to all citizens - black or white. Millions of black people in the south were denied the right to vote, a right guaranteed by the Constitution. The same people who denied these rights to the black people were screaming holy murder at the Mormons for disobeying the Edmunds act, a statute of Congress far inferior to the Fifteenth Amendment! May we ask again : " Who violated the law ? The people of the United States, north and south, were guilty of violating the Constitution of the United States while screaming against the people of Utah for ignoring a contemptible, unconstitutional act of Congress which all Mormon haters admitted was unconstitutional. So again, Who violated the law ? Answer : The Mormon haters whose hypocrisy knew no bounds, the wicked Liberals , sinners and devils.

Now we know why the people of Rockville ignored completely the Edmunds act, it was the wickedest law ever passes by any law-making body since bloody Mary ruled England.

In 1889, there were about 18 men in the Rockville area who were living in polygamy. Those marked with a \* were residents of Rockville : \* James P. Brown, \*Bri-  
gham Dalton, \*John Dalton, Oliver DeMille, Even Green, \*  
John C. Hall, Esquire Hepworth, Edward Huber, Henry Jennings  
\*John Langston, Artemas Millett, Albert Petty, Alonzo Russ-  
ell, \*Charles N. Smith, \*David F. Stout, \*George W. Terry,  
James P. Terry and Anson P. Winsor.

## 1890 - Act of Infamy

Two great shock waves struck Utah in 1890 whose reverberations were felt as far south as Rockville. Like atomic bombs, their objective was the complete destruction of Mormonism. The events leading up to the great explosion were momentous. During the first four months of 1890, the people of Utah were subjected to a series of threats that grievously disturbed the peace in the Territory. A new law was being written in Congress, the so called Struble bill, whose object was the destruction of local government in Utah. This dishonorable legislation proposed to disfranchise all Mormons, disqualify them from holding civil office and prevent them from serving on juries. A similar act had been enacted in Idaho which had been sustained by the high court. These enemies of Utah concluded that a similar law in Utah would also be sustained. Accordingly, Robert N. Baskin, prepared "suitable" legislation for Utah. Mr Struble introduced the "suitable" bill in the House, April 11. It provided that no person living or teaching polygamy shall vote, serve as a juror or hold civil office in the Territory. The enactment of such a vicious bill would have reduced Utah to the status of a Russian slave colony. The proposed legislation was so radical that even anti-Mormons could not stomach it. A group of 42 non-Mormons rejected the proposed bill and petitioned Congress to kill the bill, charging, they declared, the proposed legislation was "conceived in hatred and vindictiveness, a poison fruit that would destroy society." This petition had a tremendous influence on members of Congress who soon lost their enthusiasm for the bill which soon melted away.

No sooner had this threat subsided than a greater calamity struck Utah with devastating affects. The famous case against the church was resolved, May 19. The unconstitutional Edmunds-Tucker act was again upheld by

1890 - Act of Infamy

a dishonorable court. The Edmunds act, which was completely unconstitutional, was declared constitutional. The church attorneys had asked the court to pass on its constitutionality. That put the court on the spot. The seven weaklings on the bench did just that. They were too weak to do otherwise. Since public opinion in the nation was vehemently against polygamy, the judges feared assassination if they rendered a just decision. They lacked the moral courage to sustain the Constitution.

Consequently, the world was to witness the greatest infamy of all times. The Edmunds act, which was 100% unconstitutional, was declared constitutional! The decision was therefore a complete defeat for the church. The prejudiced judges charged that the "Church was an organized rebellion, a perverse, stubborn, insubordinate, obstinate and a wilfully disobedient conspiracy."

To meet this threat, it was alleged, "Congress was forced to repeal all Territorial enactments and disincorporate the church by declaring its incorporation invalid. ... The charter granted in 1851 was annulled, it was alleged, for violation of the rights granted under the charter. After the church was disincorporated, so the court continued to allege, no party could legally claim the property, hence it was escheated to the US."

Greater falsehoods could not have been uttered in fewer words. The entire decision was a monstrous fabrication. The court's assumptions were based on illusions and its conclusions were sadly irrational. The decision was a contemptuous insult against sacred church institutions. It was blasphemy.

Reason and justice had no effect on the seven justices who rendered the decision. Impeachment could not have atoned for the great wrongs committed. The judicial system of the United States had sunk to a new low. The News editor called the decision, "Robbery".

The Tenth Amendment specifically denies all powers to the Congress which are not enumerated by the Constitut-



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ion. The power to regulate religion, marriage or family affairs is DENIED to Congress. In spite of this prohibition, Congress, ignorant of its powers, proceeded to pass laws regulating marriage in the Territory of Utah. This was repeated not once, but three times, first in 1862, 1882 and in 1887. Congress in passing this legislation violated the Constitution, not once, but three times. These statutes were all unconstitutional.

Thirteen months prior to this disastrous decision (April 7, 1889), the church had discontinued issuing permits for plural marriages, but the world knew nothing of it, hence the intense hostility of the Utah Commission in its report to the Secretary.

The Liberals were also in the dark during the campaign for the August elections. This party went all out to defeat the "church" party. The scandalous decision (of May 19, 1890) had given the Liberals hope that they could wrestle all the local offices from the People's party and eventually destroy the church. Much to their embarrassment, the church party won a smashing victory at the polls. They carried 21 counties while the Liberals won in four. The People's total vote was 7,088, the Liberals, 958. Since the machinery for the August election had been rigged to insure a Liberal victory, the defeat came as a shock to the evil Commissioners, who, highly aggravated, sought means of heaping villainy on the church by issuing an inflammatory and false report to the Secretary of the Interior. A report based on truth would have vindicated the Mormons, but that was impossible, so a false report was issued. The libelous report charged that :

" Forty-one male persons have entered into the polygamic relation since June, 1889, ... which is forbidden by the church authorities."

This accusation caused a sensation in Utah where the monstrous falsehood was seen as an attempt to force the Mormons to surrender. The Herald called it a



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"despicable slander." The Commissioners were challenged to name the 41 law breakers. " This they declined to do, thus virtually admitting they had been guilty of a most despicable slander for political purposes."

Governor Thomas added more fuel to the fire, quoted by the Tribune, September 9 :

" The The enactment of the Struble bill would hasten the end and be better even for the Mormons. Temporalizing methods only serve to prolong the strife."

These false reports were highly condemnatory of the church and were seasoned with hostile criminations which were, in reality, veiled threats. These libelous taunts aroused the wrath of the church leaders to a white heat.. The Commission had threatened the church with dire penalties if the "evils" were not rescinded. The penalty implied was a test oath law modeled on Idaho's malignity, which they would ask Congress to enact - if the Mormons failed to "reform". It was an undisguised ultimatum to submit or face extermination. But the church would not be coerced. With Patrick Henry, they shouted :

" Give us liberty, or give us death."

President Woodruff reacted to these scurrilous attacks by issuing a manifesto of his own, September 24, quoted by the News, September 25, p. 2 :

" The Utah Commission... alleged that plural marriages are still being solemnized and that forty such marriages have been contracted in Utah since last June. ...

" I, therefore ... in the most solemn manner, declare these charges are false. We are not teaching polygamy since April 7, 1889 or plural marriage, nor permitting any person to enter into the practice. ...

" In as much as laws have been enacted (March 3, 1887) by Congress forbidding plural marriages, which laws have been pronounced constitutional (May 19, 1890) by the court of last resort, I hereby declare my intention to

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submit to these laws, and to use my influence with the members of the church to have them do likewise.

" There is nothing in my teachings to the church ... during the time specified (since April 7, 1889), which can be reasonably construed to include or encourage polygamy. ... And I now publicly declare that my advise to the Latter-day Saints is to refrain from contracting any marriage forbidden by the law of the land."

Signed : Wilford Woodruff.

This declaration stunned the Mormons and electrified the world. The people were advised to respect the law even though they were convinced the law was unconstitutional. Henceforth the manifesto was to be the law of the church. It repealed the revelation of 1843. All violators of the new law were subject to excommunication.

Later, October 6, the church in general conference, sustained the manifesto by a unanimous vote. The church had been teaching the doctrine for 56 years and practicing it openly for 38. It was more difficult to accept the doctrine than it was to revoke it. Many left the church between 1843 and 1852 because they could not accept polygamy. After 1890, another breed of Mormons left the church because they resented the manifesto. These people believed the church had apostatized by abandoning polygamy. They believed John Taylor was the last true Prophet of the church. Woodruff, they insisted, had led the church into hell. These people were 100% wrong. 99% of the members unconditionally supported Woodruff. Rockville had both breeds among its inhabitants.

A strange campaign to elect a Delegate to Congress was conducted, the manifesto had changed the situation. Both parties chose candidates in a thick cloud of doubt. The issue, as the Liberals saw it :

" Disfranchisement of all Mormons."

They demanded : " No Citizenship for Mormons."

They nominated C.C. Goodwin, a vehement enemy of the

# 1890 - Act of Infamy

church. Said he : " The chiefs of the church has a divine right to order the members to vote as ordered."

The People's party accepted the challenge and nominated John T. Caine who won by a 9,419 majority. The People's vote was 16,353, Mr Goodwin received 6,906. His dream of disfranchising the Mormons went up in smoke. It was a year of infamy.

Election on the upper Virgin :

Town	Caine	Goodwin
.....		
Duncan	7	0
Grafton	15	0
Rockville	26	0
Silver Reef	1	15
St. George	153	1
Shonesburg	12	0
Springdale	12	0
Toquerville	24	0
Virgin City	42	0
Washington Co.	2138	19
Utah	16,353	6,906
.....		

Early in the spring the Utah Commission had appointed judges for the election in Rockville. They were : George A. Smith, Joseph Langston and Frank Slaughter.

The Census for 1890 :

Grafton	104	Springdale	73
Rockville	194	Virgin City	213
Shonesberg	51	Washington Co.	4,009
Utah	210,779		

## 1891 - Politics in Chaos

The Manifesto was a momentous tidal wave that affected the future destiny of Utah. It was a high summit in human affairs that influenced all future events. The waves ejected by the edict changed the history that followed. Since 1870 the strongest plank in the Liberal platform was the extirpation of polygamy. The manifesto completely extirpated it from the party's platform. That left the Liberals without a base to stand on. The People's party was also left without a base. Since 1870 the People's most effective plank had been the defense of polygamy. The party had nothing more to defend. Both parties were therefore lost in the political wilderness. The manifesto had failed to convince the Utah Commission, President Harrison and Governor Thomas that the Mormons were sincere in revoking polygamy. The official protests by the church were as pearls cast before swine. Consequently, the revocation of polygamy was challenged by the anti-Mormons.

Since 1886 when Governor Murray threatened to exterminate the Mormons, this history has neglected Rockville and its local affairs. Now that the crisis on polygamy has been partially resolved, more attention can be given to the problems of the upper Virgin area.

The big event in 1891, was the resignation of Bishop Charles N. Smith, January 19. He had served as Bishop for 23 years, longer than any other man, before or since. On that day a public meeting was held in which President Daniel D. McArthur and Anthony W. Ivins were present. Gottlieb Hirschi was sustained as the new Bishop with David F. Stout and George A. Smith as counselors. Smith soon moved away so in September, Jacob H. Langston was sustained as second counselor.

In recent years floods had damaged Rockville's river dam and disrupted the canals which supplied water to the town. Repairing the water system had cost the people a lot of labor and money. The work was completed June 22, 300 days of labor had been spent on the project.

## 1891 - Politics in Chaos

In terms of cash, the workers had spent \$532.50 in repair work.

The floods had destroyed many acres of good farming lands. Families who had been hit the hardest, moved away. There was a general exodus from the upper Virgin valley during this period, specially from Grafton and Shonesburg where the floods had done the most damage. Rockville and Springdale, however, increased in population during the nineties. Church membership in Rockville, in June, was 176. The population increased during the next ten years.

The Utah Commission appointed judges for the August election, they were : Jacob Langston, Frank Slaughter and J. H. Jennings.

The new policy on polygamy had killed both political parties. Even in Rockville, the people were affected by the change. This in spite of the fact that the Liberal party had never existed in the Virgin towns. Since 1870, not one Liberal vote had been cast in the elections. Prior to 1850, Utahns had belonged to the two national parties - the Democratic and Whigs.

The movement to dissolve the two parties was begun by the Liberals. That party split into three factions. First the original Democrats rebelled against the arch conservative Liberal leaders who had led the party into "chaos." A few of these Liberals had realized the party had no place to go and wanted out. The platform of the old Liberal gang had vanished into thin air. A few of these "rebels" met in secret and decided to invite all ex-Democrats to a convention for the purpose of re-organizing a new Democratic party. This convention met May 15 and achieved its objectives. Even ex-Democrats who were members of the People's party, joined the "rebellion."

## History of Rockville

The Liberals suffered a second walk out. Ex-Republicans, highly disgusted with Liberal policies, also rebelled, held a convention, May 20, and nominated candidates for local offices.

A hard core faction, the bitter enders, whose aim was the destruction of the Mormon church, stood pat. They looked with alarm on the disintegration of the party. These die-hard Liberals stood like a stone wall. They declared war on the "rebels". They met in a mass meeting, May 29, and warned the dissenters against handing over the Territory to the Mormons who would restore the "theocracy."

Members of the People's party were fully convinced that the party should be dissolved. A few of the leaders met and voted to call for a convention to resolve the issue. That meeting was held May 29 in which it was decided to hold a Territorial convention, June 10. The delegates at that convention voted to dissolve the party. All members were given the right to join the party of his choice.

June 25 a group of 149 Democrats and 68 Republicans met and issued a manifesto addressed to all Liberals inviting them to dissolve their party and join the national parties. This offer was rejected.

This refusal untangled the political situation. Each party proceeded to re-organize their forces, hold conventions and nominate candidates for the Legislative Assembly to be selected in the August elections. That event was held on the third where 14,157 votes were cast for the Democratic candidates and 6,339 for the Republicans while the Liberals received 7,404. A total of 27,900 in all.

After an exhaustive search, this writer found the election returns for the five upper Virgin towns, Herald, August 21, p. 6 :

" Washington County was in the 17th Representative District , two Republicans and one Democratic candidates were on the ballot :

1891 - Politica in Chaos

Town	R Chidester	R Rider	D Wm. Sargent
Grafton	3	0	12
Rockville	8	6	8
Shonesburg	1	0	5
Springdale	9	6	3
Virgin City	3	0	29
Totals	24	12	57

Returns in the 10th Council District

Town	R. C. Lund	S. R. West
Grafton	12	3
Rockville	12	7
Shonesburg	5	1
Springdale	9	2
Virgin City	28	3
Totals	66	16

In the Rockville election, a Justice of the Peace was selected, the winner : Zena Draper, 18 .

The total vote in Washington County was :  
Democrats, 477, Republican, 73, Liberals, 0.

This was the last time that elections were held in August.

The Utah Commission made its annual report to the Secretary of the Interior in September. In that report the 1890 charges were repeated. It strongly advised against granting statehood to Utah. In its biased opinion the people were unfit for statehood, if granted, a civil war would be unavoidable. It was plain the majority was suffering from illusions of grandeur.

## History of Rockville

The church Presidency issued a public statement in which it labeled the Commission report as :

" Utterly without foundation in Truth."

A committee was appointed to write :

" Resolutions of Protest."

These resolutions were issued : " We deny that the church dominates its members. ...

" No polygamous marriages have been solemnized...."

" We appeal to all peoples to accept our protests."

The Tribune editor called the protest :

" PREPOSTEROUS "

A final episode was a petition for amnesty. A great wrong had been committed. The Mormons had been the victims of many monstrous wrongs. Even a few non-members had a guilty conscience of wrong doing. A non-Mormon discussion group formulated a petition pleading for an amnesty for the persecuted Mormons. Even Judge Zane signed it. The petition was presented to President Harrison, December 19. Since Harrison was planning to seek re-election in 1892, he ignored the petition. Harrison was too weak a character to sign any petition which explains why politics in 1891 was in chaos.

.....

### Rockville's Third Bishop

GOTTLIEB HIRSCHI

1837-1900

.....Bishop....1891-1900.....

Born January 16, 1837, Died January 24, 1900  
Married September 14, 1861 to Mary Ann Huff  
She was born February 14, 1838, died Dec. 15, 1924  
She was daughter of Christian Rupp  
Parents of seven children.





GOTTLIEB HIRSCHI

.....

Counselors to Bishop Hirschi

David F. Stout, 1891-1900 - Jacob Langston, 1891-1897  
Christian Larsen, 1897-1903

.....

Children :

Albert, b. 1862, d. 1881, unm.  
Joseph, b. 1865, d. 1941, unm.  
William, b. 1867, d. 1944, m. 1890 to Mary Stout.  
David, b. 1870, d. 1938, m. 1890 to Mary Petty.  
Daniel, b. 1874, d. 1952, m. 1895 to Amelia Petty.  
Susan, b. 1876, d. 1954, m. 1900 to James Stanworth.  
Eliza, b. 1882, d. 1961, m. 1900 to Oliver DeMille.

## 1892 - Old Parties Come Alive

Since the birth of Rockville in 1862, the people in the rocky village were strangers to the party system in the nation. The Republican party was born twelve years after the pioneers arrived in the valley and three years before Rockville was first settled. Since Utah was a territory prior to 1892 its people were non-voters and hence not active in current politics.

The dissolution of the People's party in 1891 changed the political pattern in Utah, no longer was it necessary to defend polygamy since the church had banned the practice. Members of that party were left stranded without an issue to defend. It was therefore decided that the rational policy to follow would be to dissolve the People's party and re-organize new parties under the direction of the old parties, namely, the Republican and Democrats. This was accomplished.

There were a few Republicans in Rockville who adhered to the principles of Abraham Lincoln but opposed the views of President Harrison. The latter was considered a disgrace to the great Lincoln. The Republicans of Rockville were great admirers of Lincoln's views and his great Gettysburg address. Those in Rockville who adopted the Republican label met in a rally, February 26, and exchanged views on the current problems of the day. They were addressed by David F. Stout who gave a history of the Republican party and its achievements. Party members from all upper Virgin towns met at Toquerville, March 18 and chose delegates to the county convention held later in St. George. The Democrats of the county also held a convention but no record of a date or results is known.

Both parties held conventions where delegates to the national conventions were selected. Each party also chose candidates for Delegate to Congress. The Democrats selected Joseph L. Rawlings, the Republicans chose Frank J. Cannon, while the Liberals nailed Clarence E. Allen. At the November election, Mr. Rawlings pulled 15,201; Cannon, 12,390 and Allen received 6,986. In the

# 1892 - Old Parties Come Alive

Rockville count, Rawlings received 12 votes; Cannon, 11. and Allen none.

There was a local election in Rockville. One candidate for each of the two positions were selected. For Justice of the Peace, John F. Stout, 14 votes. For Constable, Frank Slaughter, 21 votes.

The amnesty petition which had been presented to President Harrison, December 19, 1891, remained on his desk all of 1892. He deliberately ignored it. The anti-Mormon President was too weak and prejudiced to take any action. He knew that favorable action meant defeat. His attitude angered the people of Rockville and all Utahns. Congress had committed a crime against the Mormons by confiscating their personal property without compensation, an act in violation of the Constitution. This dastardly act had violated the moral code of decency and propriety which disgraced the government. The public conscience of America's best citizens was smitten by this immoral act who promptly demanded that the crime be rectified by issuing a solemn apology to the Mormons and begging forgiveness. But Harrison was a dishonorable man, with no conscience nor moral principles. He had come up from the gutter. An apology to the Mormons was unthinkable. His attitude toward the petition was fully shared by the Tribune. Consequently, the petition was not signed in 1892. His defeat and exit later changed the situation in 1893 when he had nothing to loose. Unfortunately, the people of Rockville did not have an opportunity to express their antagonism toward Harrison in an election. They took out their spite out on him by voting against Allen who was a Liberal candidate for Delegate to Congress.

1892 election returns on the Virgin :

Rawlings	Cannon	Allen
----------	--------	-------

.....	.....	.....
Crafton	17	5
		0

# History of Rockville

	Rawlings	Cannon	Allen
Rockville	12	11	0
Shonesburg	6	0	0
Springdale	6	6	0
Virgin City	31	9	0

.....

Totals	72	20	0
--------	----	----	---

.....

At the Stake Conference, December 12, a report was made of contributions of the 20 wards in the Stake toward the building of the Salt Lake Temple which was nearly finished. The St. George Stake had donated \$4,511.00. The three upper Virgin towns had contributed :

Grafton	\$ 65.00
Rockville	\$ 88.20
Virgin	\$ 147.77.

.....

## 1893 - A Weak Amnesty

President Harrison suffered a well deserved rebuff in the 1892 election. During his four years in office, Harrison had played the role of anti-Mormon bigot whose tactics harassed and persecuted the Mormons in their quest for civil rights. Even the Republicans in Utah rejoiced in his exit. His deliberate failure to sign the petition of amnesty in 1892 was interpreted by Utahns as scurrilous. When 1893 came roaring in, pressure from all directions forced him to sign the petition. Conscience smitten, he signed under duress (January 4). It proved a very weak proclamation, a shadow of a full, free and

# 1893 - A Weak Amnesty

generous amnesty the petition had asked for. Its benefits were negative. It failed to restore the franchise to those who had been convicted of unlawful cohabitation, but who since conviction, had lived within the law and were not, at the date of the proclamation, liable to be convicted.

As noted above, 1889, the amnesty affected at least 20 families in the Rockville area.

The Salt Lake Temple was dedicated, April 6, Many residents in the Virgin Valley made the 300 mile trip in covered wagons to attend the sacred ceremonies.

In preparation for the November election, the Utah Commission in July appointed the election officials. In Rockville, James Jennings was appointed registration agent. The judges at the polls were James Jennings, Zemira Draper and David Hirschi.

The second election in Utah which witnessed a division of political parties into three groups, took place in 1893. It was the last time the Liberal party took part in an election. In fact that party had never existed in Washington County. The Democrats won 5 seats in the Council, the Republicans 5, and the Liberals 2. In the House, the Democrats won 8 seats, the Republicans 10, and the Liberals 6.

Washington County was in the 10th Council District. The results in the five Virgin towns :

Town	Charles Adams - D	R. A. Allen - R
.....	.....	.....
Grafton	11	5
Rockville	5	7
Shonesburg	6	0
Springdale	5	4
Virgin City	38	6
.....	.....	.....
Totals	65	22

## History of Rockville

Town	17th Representative District	
	J. F. Chidester-R	A. W. Ivins-D
.....		
Grafton	4	12
Rockville	7	5
Shonesburg	0	6
Springdale	4	5
Virgin City	6	38
.....		
Totals	21	66
.....		

In these elections, the five towns went Democratic for both candidates except in Rockville which remained true to the Republicans. These elections demonstrated to the Liberals the hopelessness of their cause. Consequently, December 18, the members of that party voted to disband. Their supreme aim had been to destroy polygamy, but the Mormons claimed polygamy had not been destroyed, just discontinued for a season - that season, as of 1972, has lasted 79 years.

A great climax in Utah history took place, December 13. On that date, the U.S. House of Representatives granted statehood to Utah! It was a thunder bolt, after 44 years of fighting for that achievement. Rockville went wild when the news broke. Wild celebrations shook Rockville to her foundations. The people went wild with joy. All Liberals crawled down into rat holes.

1894 - Statehood Approved

The election of November, 1893 proved to be a dud. The Council which had been elected by the people was obstructed by the obstreperous action of the Liberals in both houses. When the session met in January, these ex-Republicans joined the new Republican majority to block the program proposed by the Democratic Governor and the Democratic minority. Result, a dead-locked session except the legislation favored by the rebels. This unnatural state of affairs nearly destroyed the effectiveness of the Legislative Assembly. This malevolence was due to the presence of these ex-Liberals whose hostility toward the Mormons had never been healed.

A sensation was created in Utah, January 10, when the Supreme Court pleaded guilty to charges of illegally appropriating private funds from the Mormon Church (this event took place May 19, 1890). On that day, January 10, Uncle Sam, reading from his own book of rules - the Constitution - discovered to his horror, that the rules forbade the confiscation of private funds without "just compensation." This discovery shocked him. He immediately ordered his stooge, the Utah Supreme Court, to return the personal property to the Mormon Church. This was grudgingly done.

The admission of guilt by the court was highly approved by the people of Rockville and all loyal citizens in Utah. They reasoned that if it was morally right to return the personal property back to the church it was also morally right that the real estate property which had also been stolen should be returned to the church. This deduction inspired the people to ask the Assembly to petition Congress for the restoration of all properties confiscated. The Assembly complied by dispatching a memorial, February 12, pleading with that dishonorable body to release all the church real estate seized. Congress, tormented by a guilty conscience, deliberately ignored the petition for two long years before granting the request.

# History of Rockville

For 44 years, Utah had been asking for statehood. Finally, on December 13, 1893, as noted above, the U.S. House of Representatives, approved statehood for Utah. The bill was sent to the Senate, where, after 209 days of argument, it was passed, July 10, 1894 by a large majority. President Cleveland signed the act, July 16. A proclamation was issued calling for an election, November 6, to choose delegates to a Constitutional Convention.

The Utah Commission appointed judges for the Rockville election. They were : Zemira Draper, James H. Jennings and Joseph H. Petty. James P. Terry was appointed registrar.

In September both parties held nominating conventions. The Republicans met at Provo, and nominated Frank J. Cannon, while the Democrats re-nominated Joseph L. Rawlings who boasted the Democrats were the party of harmony, not "duplicity."

In the election, Cannon defeated Rawlings, 21,323 to 19,506. There were some surprises :

Town	Cannon	Rawlings
.....		
Grafton	5	16
Rockville	16	16
Shonesburg	2	5
Springdale	7	6
Virgin City	8	35
.....		
Totals	38	78
.....		
Washington County	183	483
.....		

While Cannon won in the whole Territory, Rawlings was highest in Washington County.



## 1894 - Statehood Approved

Another election was held simultaneously, to choose delegates to a Constitutional convention whose responsibility was the writing of a constitution for the new State of Utah. This election was expected to choose 107 delegates to the 1895 Convention. Washington County was authorized to send two delegates. Both parties held conventions and selected candidates for the Territorial Convention. The Democrats chose A. W. Ivins and Edward H. Snow. The Republicans selected Martin Slack and Samuel Stewart. The two Democrats won.

The last crucial act of 1894 was the amnesty issued by President Cleveland, September 17 which replaced the unjust and incomplete amnesty proclaimed by President Harrison in January, 1893. The new amnesty gave a full pardon to all persons who had violated any of the laws passed by Congress. This edict affected at least 20 men in the Rockville area including this writer's own father. This proclamation completely vindicated Utah. A malicious government had been forced to atone for its major crimes and ask Utah forgiveness. It was a day of infamy for the wicked and vile Senator Edmunds who was responsible for the crime.

## 1895 - Freedom or Tyranny

During this hectic year the people in the Virgin Valley were asked to choose between achieving statehood or a continuation of tyranny under the carpetbaggers. These Virgin pioneers had endured 33 years of tyrannical rule under these scallawags. It was time for a change. Since Congress had granted statehood, the people were expected to write a constitution acceptable to both Congress and the president and approved by a referendum of the people of Utah. It was hoped the new Constitution would guarantee life, liberty and the

## History of Rockville

pursuit of happiness to all citizens in Utah under a republican form of government. These rights had been denied Utahns since 1850 when the Territory was organized. Statehood was conditional by the enabling act on the people's acceptance of the constitution in a territory wide referendum.

1895 was the year of redemption. Utah must be rescued from the status of a Russian slave colony to a full partner in the association of sovereign states. It was a coveted prize obtained by the approval of a constitution written by her own citizens.

The Constitutional Convention met March 4 and organized. Washington County's two delegates took an active part in the deliberations. A.W. Ivins was a dynamic leader in the fight for a sane document. The 107 delegates resolved three burning issues : Woman's suffrage, polygamy and prohibition (which failed by a large majority). The constitution was adopted May 6 by a 72 to 0 vote, 34 delegates were absent. If approved by the people, Utah would become the 45th State.

The Constitution had 24 articles and a Declaration of Rights. Its preamble was solemn :

" Grateful to Almighty God for life and liberty, we the people of Utah, in order to secure and perpetuate the principles of free government, do ordain, and establish this Constitution."

Its epic message :

" Freedom of conscience guaranteed, no law to establish a religion, no religious tests required, no union of Church and State."

These were the rights the new constitution hoped to grant the people. They were rights all citizens on the Virgin should enjoy. Unfortunately, there were some who opposed these rights. Two were from Rockville, 3 in Virgin City, and 25 in Washington County. In all Utah, 7,687 were vehemently against the constitution. But the majority, 31,305 in all, thanks to men like Ivins,

# 1895 - Freedom or Tyranny

were vehemently for the Constitution and the crown of glory which came with it.

Congress had stipulated that a second election be held simultaneously. Congress had assumed the constitution would be approved so provided that all candidates for office be selected at the same time. Both parties held conventions where all candidates for office were nominated. In Washington County the Democrats chose Edward H. Snow for the Senate and James Andrus for the House. The Republicans named Samuel Stewart for the Senate and David McMillian for the House.

There were two state-wide contests to be resolved. A Governor and a Congressman. The Democrats nominated B. H. Roberts for the House, and John T. Caine for Governor. The Republicans selected C. E. Allen for Congress and Heber M. Wells for Governor.

At least the winners in this election were satisfied :

Shall Utah approve the new Constitution ?

Town	Yes	No
.....		
Grafton	18	0
Rockville	24	2
Shonesburg	9	0
Springdale	18	0
Virgin City	42	3
.....		
Totals	111	5
.....		
Washington County	705	25
Utah	31,305	7,687
.....		

# History of Rockville

## Election for First Governor

Town	Heber M. Wells-R	John T. Caine-D
.....		
Grafton	2	16
Rockville	17	10
Shonesburg	2	7
Springdale	9	7
Virgin City	16	31
.....		
Totals	46	71
Washington County	225	510
Utah	20,833	18,519
.....		

## Election for Congressmen

Town	Clarence Allen - R	B. H. Roberts-D
.....		
Grafton	1	17
Rockville	17	10
Shonesburg	2	7
Springdale	9	7
Virgin City	15	31
.....		
Totals	44	72
Washington Co.	208	524
Utah	20,563	19,666

1895 - Freedom or Tyranny

Town	Election to House	
	R David McMillian	D James Andrus
.....		
Grafton	1	17
Rockville	17	10
Shonesburg	2	7
Springdale	9	7
Virgin City	16	31
.....		
Totals	45	72
Washington Co.	239	496
.....		

11th Senatorial District

Town	Samuel Stewart-R	E. H. Snow- D
.....		
Grafton	1	17
Rockville	17	10
Shonesburg	2	7
Springdale	9	7
Virgin City	16	31
.....		
Totals	45	72
Washington Co.	214	520
.....		

The most baffling aspect of this election was the 7,687 negative votes cast against statehood. After 46 years of struggle for admission into the Union we witness a few idiots voting against the

## History of Rockville

Constitution! It is hard to believe a person could fall so low. Had the people of Rockville known who the two traitors were, a lynching mob would have ridden them out of town on a rail. Virgin City had three of these scoundrels that should have been treated likewise. The issue in the election had been :

" Does Utah Want Statehood ?"

If so, the people were obligated to vote for the Constitution. If the people did not want statehood, then a majority vote against the Constitution would defeat statehood. In that case, all the votes for or against the candidates would be null and void. The people did the right thing, they vindicated the honor of Utah by voting for the Constitution.

While the Democrats won in Washington County, the Republicans won throughout Utah.

The November election was indeed the culmination of Utah's advance into celestial sovereignty and glory. Utah had reached its highest goal. Henceforth, she would be sovereign, free and equal with all the original states. The Virgin residents could now look forward to peace and the "blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

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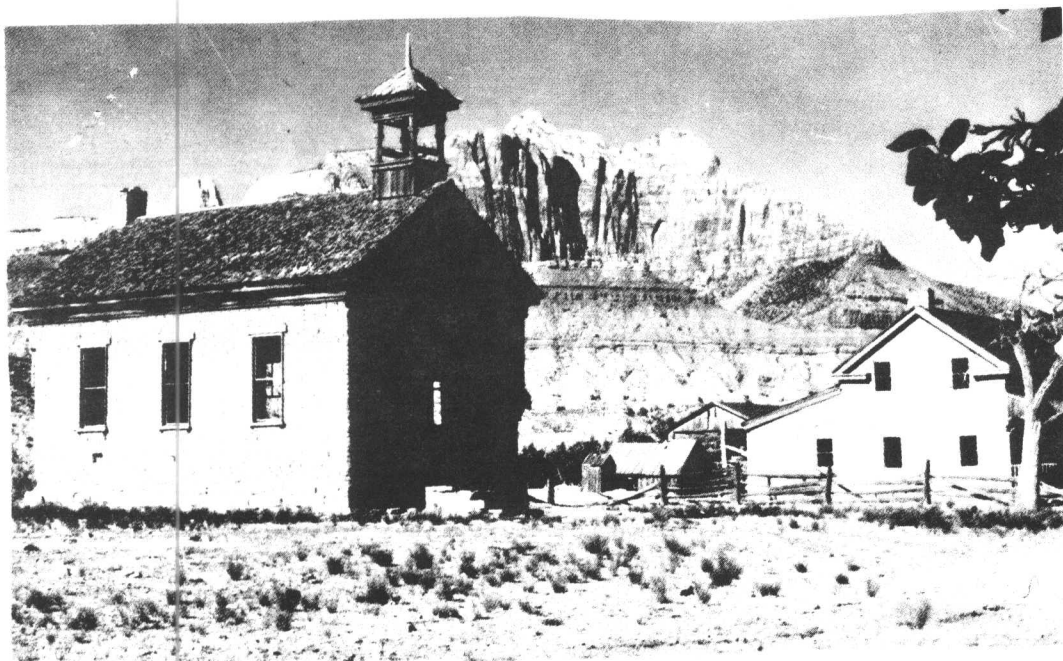
### 1896 - Rockville on Fire

Rockville was caught up in a great celebration - January 4. President Cleveland signed a proclamation granting statehood to Utah. That act admitted Utah into the Union. January 4 fell on a Saturday. In Washington, Governor West and Frank J. Cannon went to the White House where they were given the Proclamation,

-94-A

# Grafton Church

About 1880



## The Remains of Grafton.

Plagued by tragedy, Grafton witnessed near devastation from both man and nature, By 1907, the town was fast approaching ghost town status. A recent film was shot in Grafton was : "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid".



Rockville School, 1895-1896, George A. Cole, top



## 1896 - Rockville on Fire

already signed by the President. The message was immediately wired to Utah. It was as if lightning had struck a mountain. The message stunned the people of Utah. Suddenly, all hell broke loose. The populous fell into spasms of joy. Even Rockville came alive and joined the tumult. It was the wildest upheaval the sleepy town had ever witnessed. The tormented mob danced in the street. Some shouted : " Utah's Star is shining." " Utah is Queen of the West." All concluded : " Utah will take her place among the mighty states."

In the midst of this tumult, every boy blew his whistle, shots were fired and all bedlam broke loose. Swarming crowds filled the street, shouting and laughing. All shouted : " Hallelujah,"

Finally, when the shouting ended, the people of Rockville awake to the realization that Utah was a state but it had no governor nor any official of any kind. This emptiness continued for 48 hours before the state was really born.

Monday, January 6, a mass meeting was held in the Tabernacle, there the inaugural rites were held in the presence of 15,000 spectators. Governor-elect, Heber M. Wells took his oath of office and delivered his inaugural address. The pen which Cleveland had used to sign the proclamation was given to the new Governor for safe keeping. All other state officials were inducted into office..

On that day, Utah really came alive. She was no longer a stooge of the vicious Liberals, a victim of evil laws enacted by bigots from the gutter. Utah was at last free to build her own future. The towns on the upper Virgin were beneficiaries of these blessings.

Beginning January 6, Utah was a State. Her citizens on the Virgin could at last say that they belonged to a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. A government " we have hoped for, prayed for,

## History - of Rockville

worked for, and finally we have created."

The people pledged no union of church and state, nor domination of the state by any church in the nation.

January 7, the first Legislature met and listened to Utah's first Governor deliver his "State of the State" message. The message was well received by the people on the Virgin.

The Legislature chose Utah's first two U.S. Senators - Frank J. Cannon and Arthur Brown, both proved to be unsatisfactory.

The people on the upper Virgin were highly affected by an act of Congress which restored the church real property, confiscated by the Edmunds-Tucker act of 1887. This property had been confiscated illegally without just compensation as provided by the constitution. March 18, the Senate passed a resolution expressing its humiliation for having committed the crime. This resolution was approved by the House, March 24 and signed by Cleveland four days later. A part of that stolen property had originally been contributed by the people on the upper Virgin which explains their interest in the case.

The silver and gold controversy split both Utah's political parties into four factions. A majority of the Democrats demanded bi-metalism, 16 to 1, while a minority preferred the gold standard. The Republicans were similarly divided. The silver and gold Republicans suffered a complete disintegration. The November election resolved the contest. The campaign between these four factions was the "bloodiest" ever witnessed in Utah. The goldites in both parties favored McKinley's single gold standard. This decision insured the success of the Democratic party who favored the silver interests in Utah. Since Utah was a strong silver producer, the Democratic candidates had a great advantage in the political campaign. Just where did the people on the upper Virgin Valley stand on the silver and gold issue? Their views were well expressed at the polls.

# 1896 - Rockville on Fire

Since the Republicans had won in the 94 and 95 elections, they unwisely assumed they would win again in 1896. During the campaign the Republicans had used their majority as a club to dictate their principles, Russian style. These tactics alienated the electorate who reacted adversely against the Republicans in the election.

Another factor that affected the voting was the influence of William J. Bryan, who at the Democratic convention delivered his "Cross of gold" speech that set the convention on fire, and resulted in his nomination, and the adoption of the silver ratio of 16 to 1. The fight between gold and silver was hotter in Utah than any where else in the Union. Utah produced 8,728,705 ounces of silver, worth \$5,845,868 in 1896. So the war between Bryan's 16 to 1 and McKinley's gold standard hit an all time high in the election campaign. The election returns in the Virgin Valley was a reflection of the sentiment on gold and silver :

## 1896 Election Returns :

	McKinley - R	Bryan - D	Holbrook - R	King - D	Bount - R	Snow - D	Durkin - R	Orton - D
Grafton	2	33	2	33	2	33	2	33
Rockville	18	40	2	33	2	33	33	3
Shonesburg	1	14	2	13	12	13	15	10
Springdale	3	33	22	13	22	12	28	4
Virgin City	2	75	13	63	13	63	12	62
Wash. Co	161	1210	288	1075	287	1078	265	1100
Utah	13484	64535	27813	47362				

.....

## History of Rockville

Rockville, the heart of Republican strength on the Virgin gave that party a smashing defeat, as did the other four towns. After the Republican preformance in the Constitutional convention, the people demanded a change in leadership. Rockville wanted statehood but not on Republican terms.

The politics of only one man in Rockville was known. From the Journal of David F. Stout, it is revealed that he voted for McKinley : "In the midst of much political excitement," David wrote, " George A. Cole and I voted for McKinley." That was the first time David had voted for a presidential candidate (age 41). In that same election, David's wife, Rettie, voted for Bryan, no man could dictate to her.

A majority of the voters in Utah gave Bryan a 51,051 majority, but the nation gave the presidency to McKinley.

## 1897 - A Pioneer Jubilee

Fifty years after the pioneers arrived in Utah, Rockville had a population of approximately 190. None of these 190 residents had arrived in Utah in 1847, but 42 of that number were alive and enroute to Utah, arriving in 1848 or later. Of this number, there were 12 men with wives, and 9 widowers. In addition there were 7 widows who were alive in 1847, but had not arrived in Utah until after 1847. On that famous day, Rockville and the other three towns, honored these 42 pioneers with a program, lively festivities and a banquet to climax the day. These 42 pioneers are listed below :

Mr and Mrs John J. Allred, 1821-1897; John A. Beal, 1835-1902; Mr and Mrs Joseph S. Black, 1836-1910; Wm. V. Black, 1832-1927 (These two families had moved to Deseret); Mr and Mrs William R. Crawford, 1842-1913.

## 1897 - A Pioneer Jubilee

Mr and Mrs Oliver DeMille, 1830-1908. Mr and Mrs Thomas S. Farnes, 1836-1908, Thomas E. Flanigan, 1843-1918, Samuel K. Gifford, 1821-1907, Charles E. Griffin 1836-1900, Mr and Squire Hepworth, 1843-1920, Mr and Mrs Gottlieb Hirschi, 1837-1900, Charles H. Jones, 1836-1903, Mr and Mrs Samuel T. Kenner, 1833-1907, Joseph Millett, 1832-1911, Daniel W. Morris, 1837-1918, Mr and Mrs Alonzo H. Russell, 1821-1910, Charles N. Smith (moved to Monroe in 1891), 1824-1877, Mr and Mrs James P. Terry, 1830-1918, Mr and Mrs James W. Tharxton, 1832-1903, Mr and Mrs Anson P. Winsor, 1818-1917.

The nine widows who had survived the fifty years were : Eunice P. Brown, 1834-1912, Lora A. T. Brown, 1836-1923, Letiten W. Dalton, 1837-1902, Amy T. Draper, 1821-1900, Mary E. Duzzett, 1823-1913, Kezia D. Hall, 1837-1905, Clarinda P. Langston, 1829-1908, Charlotte P. Pincock, 1827-1901, and Fanny E. Slaughter, 1836-1921.

While these 42 surviving pioneers were being honored in the upper virgin, the big jubilee celebration was in progress in Salt Lake City. In that city five days of festivities were held to commemorate Utah's fiftieth anniversary of the pioneer's arrival with pageantry, parads, contests and song for a great achievement well done.

Of the 148 persons who arrived in the valley, July 24, 1847, only 24 were alive in July, 1897. It was possible that some of the descendants of the original 148 were living in Washington County in 1897.

As a result of the November, 1896 election, the Utah Legislature of 1897 was strongly Democratic. Rockville's voters were partly responsible for that majority. This numerical advantage enabled the Democrats to elect a U S. Senator to succeed Senator Brown who was retiring in 1897. In the legislative struggle to choose that senator, the Mormon members supported Joseph L. Rawlings, a non-Mormon. To complete this ridiculous line-up, the non-Mormons supported Moses

## History of Rockville

Thatcher, a stalworth Mormon. Rawlings won. The question was asked : Was the Church still in politics ?

1897 witnessed an exodus from Rockville. Several of the larger families found it difficult to raise enough crops on the limited acrege to feed their growing families. Expansion was impossible in Rockville since all tillable lands were already under cultivation. Two of the Black families had already moved to Millard County. Jacob Langston moved to Hinckley where he found room to expand. Other families followed, namely, Hosea F. Stout, John, George and James P. Terry all moved north where lands were available. Later, the Slaughter families and David F. Stout left Rockville to seek greater opportunities.

### 1898 - That Cross of Gold

War clouds were heavy in 1898, but fortunately, Rockville and even Utah were very remotely involved. Utah's patriotism was speedily tested when a second "Mormon Batellion" was recruited and sent to the jungles of Cuba. It is not known whether any of the recruits in that Batallion were from the Virgin valley. None of the nine casualties suffered in that conflict were from Washington County. Dixie was involved in a different conflict. Its conflict involved gold and silver. The silver warriors suffered one casualty. Rockville deserted the silverites and joined the McKinley goldites. The town proudly put on a crown of gold. In 1896, all the towns on the upper Virgin, Rockville included, had voted for Bryan and his crown of silver. After two years of experience with that shaky metal, Rockville learned her lesson, and voted for a gold candidate. None of the Virgin towns followed Rockville's example. Even the county of Washington gave the silver candidates a large

# 1898 - That Cross of Gold

majority. The Rockville voters exercised greater wisdom at the polls. To them a crown of gold was a lot more comfortable to wear than a crown of silver that was easily inflated.

In the campaign of 1898, both parties in Rockville and in the state as a whole, were sharply divided on the metal issue. At the Republican convention a majority voted for the silver ratio of 16 to 1. That action forced a minority to walk out and join the national Republicans who advocated the gold standard. The Rockville Republicans joined the gold rebels in the war against the silver infidels.

The Democrats of Utah were overwhelmingly for silver. They nominated B. H. Roberts for Congress and adopted a strong silver platform. A few of these weak members could not swallow the silver diet so they sneaked into the Republican camp - under cover of darkness. The election was a land-slide for the Democrats. Washington County went over-whelmingly for Roberts and his silver cause. Only Rockville had the courage to vote for Eldridge-McKinley ticket. Most of the towns in the county gave Roberts a majority. The results in the four towns are as follows :

	Roberts-D		Tanner-D		McQuarrie-D	
	Eldridge-r		Seegmiller-R		Miles-R	
Grafton	28	6	28	6	28	6
Rockville	18	25	17	26	25	18
Spring.	25	23	14	34	24	14
Virgin	39	11	39	11	38	11
Wash. Co.	722	337	647	211	559	55
Utah....	35296	29631				

The election of B.H. Roberts caused a storm of protest. Being a polygamist, the shock was too great for the non-Mormons. They called the election "perfid-



## History of Rockville

ious and dishonorable." They warned : The "manifesto should be recalled."

The year that began with a war in Cuba, ended with a war against a polygamist.

### 1899 - Utah's Darkest Hour

The two tragic events which disturbed Rockville in 1899 was the failure of the Democratic majority in the Legislature to elect a U.S. Senator, and the great controversy over the election of B.H. Roberts to a seat in Congress.

In the election of November, 1898, Rockville had voted 25 to 18 against Roberts, while the rest of the towns on the Virgin had favored him. Even Washington County had sustained Roberts as had all of Utah. Roberts was Utah's first choice as Representative. Naturally, he was unacceptable to the non-Mormons.

Roberts was a strong advocate of silver in the ratio of 16 to 1 and a firm supporter of William J. Bryon. Those who opposed him in politics were religious bigots. The Tribune was his greatest adversary. Its editor shouted :

" That defiant polygamist will never be seated."  
That was the spark that ignited the war.

The editor's allies were the ex-Liberals who had been immobile since 1893, but who suddenly sprang to life and declared war on the Mormons. These bigots, none of whom lived in Dixie, publicly charged that the Mormons had returned to politics and were again practicing polygamy. The leaders of this anti-Roberts conspiracy drafted a formal protest which they sent to the House alleging the "honor and dignity of all true Americans were at



## 1899 - Utah's Darkest Hour

stake, " therefore," they alleged, " Roberts, as a law breaker, is unfit to sit as a law-maker in Congress."

Governor Wells rejected the protest as morally un-true, said he :

" The Democrats elected Roberts, not the Mormons. The Republican party worked and voted against Roberts and therefore resent the accusation that it was Mormonism that elected him."

This well deserved rebuke went unheeded by the wicked scoffers who accelerated their protests during the campaign.

The election of 1898 had also selected 41 Democrats and 22 Republicans to the January, 1899 Legislature. That session had the responsibility of electing a new Senator due to take office, March 4, 1899. The people of Washington County had selected two members of that session. Rockville, as we noted above, gave Senator Seegmiller a majority of its votes, but he lost, while a majority of Rockville's voters went to the Democrat, McQuarrie, who won.

The session began, January 9. Each party chose candidates for the Senate. In this session there were 41 Democrats and 22 Republicans. A candidate to win needed only 32 votes. The Democrats had 9 more votes than was needed to choose a Senator. These 41 Democrats went completely insane , hence failed to choose a senator. After 164 ballots they were still deadlocked. A group of 41 idiots would have known what to do in that situation. These 41 Democrats did not know what to do. It was Utah's darkest hour. Utah became the laughing stock of the nation. These Democrats should have been exiled to Russia.

Meanwhile, the campaign against Roberts began to pick up steam. President Snow wrote a letter to the New York World giving the Mormon side of the controversy but that paper scornfully rejected it as false. The New

## History of Rockville

York Journal and the Daughters of the American Revolution became Roberts' bitterest enemies. The church reacted by charging that if Roberts were denied his seat it would be a "crime" against democracy.

When Congress convened in December, the Roberts issue became extremely acute. The entire nation was on edge. The anti-Mormon hurricane was ready to explode. There slogan was "crush" Roberts. Agitation against him mounted by the hour. His friends believed the church should ask him to resign to escape the mounting storm which was damaging the church. Roberts vetoed that suggestion.

When the roll was called, Roberts answered to his name. Representative Taylor promptly stood up and shouted that Roberts was "convicted of cohabitation in 1889 and is still a polygamist."

That was the beginning of the battle to unseat Roberts. A resolution was passed denying him a seat until an investigating committee shall determine his right to a seat. A vote was called to decide the matter. It was approved by a vote of 304 to 32. 18 members were too weak to take a position. None of Roberts' accusers had the intelligence to comprehend the fact that the amnesty act of 1893 had completely exonerated Roberts from any guilt for the violation of the Edmunds act of 1887. Therefore Roberts stood vindicated by the facts. But these ignorant barbarians continued to press their outrage against him. Truly Utah was passing through its darkest hour. The case was not resolved when 1899 passed into history.

1899 was also a dark year for the people living on the upper Virgin. During the summer months a severe drought complicated the farming problems. The Virgin nearly dried up. The range lands were damaged, the grass died and many cattle died of starvation.

The people on the Virgin were greatly disturbed by the Roberts case, and the failure to elect a senator. It was truly a dark year for the young state.

1900 - Roberts Kicked Out

The disgraceful record of the 1899 Legislature and the election of B. H. Roberts to the House left the people of Rockville and Utah divided and frustrated. As the new year came roaring in, the hostile House Committee, who had been investigating Roberts' fitness to serve as Utah's Congressman, was ready to submit its report. The "packed jury" of nine men gave Roberts an opportunity to testify in his own behalf, January 5. Roberts in a five speech, gave a powerful defense of his position. Said he :

" The Constitution gave the people of a state the authority to determine a man's fitness to serve in the House, not the representatives of other states."

The people of Utah had done just that. The charge of polygamy committed prior to 1887 was ridiculous. President Cleveland's amnesty had completely exonerated Roberts from the stigma of law breaking. This fact completely destroyed the case against Roberts. Therefore all attempts to deny a seat to him was unconstitutional and illegal.

The charge that Roberts' conduct was offensive to decency and morality put House morals on a high horse. Unfortunately, the moral record of House members failed to meet those standards. The House had an unsavory record, morally. The most notorious case of gross violation of the moral code was Representative William Breckinridge of Kentucky who had voted for the Esmunds-Tucker act of 1887 which made unlawful cohabitation a crime. This same man had spent most of his tenure in Congress living in adultery while opposing unlawful cohabitation in Utah. Did the House order an investigation to determine his fitness to serve in the House ? Since he was not a Mormon, his immoralities were tolerated and even admired. The effort to deny a seat to Roberts was pure hypocrisy in its ugliest forms.

January 25 was the day set for the voting on the Roberts' case. On that day the House annulled the

## History of Rockville

Constitution of the United States. By a vote of 268 to 50, the House denied Roberts a seat. This dishonorable act of denying Roberts his seat constituted the most heinous crime ever committed against democracy.

The Tribune editor, unable to control his passions, screamed : " Roberts is Kicked Out."

Legislative justice was dead. Anarchy in the House was chaotic. Democracy in Utah had been assassinated by a mad mob in Congress.

The failure of Roberts to win admission into the House had political repercussions in Utah. Pressure for a special election to fill the vacancy was strong. In response to this need Governor Wells issued a proclamation designating April 2 as the date to hold a special election to fill the vacancy in the House. Both parties held conventions and nominated candidates for the office. The Democrats nominated William H. King, while the Republicans chose James T. Hammond.

The results of that election :  
King, 31,446, Hammond, 27,199. Washington County gave King, 825, Hammond, 258. In Rockville the story was different : Hammond received, 19 while King only got 11. Virgin was still another story : King got 40 and Hammond received, 11.

Rockville was still loyal to the Republicans, and Virgin still loved the Democrats.

Meanwhile, prior to the elections, church affairs came to the front in Rockville. The very day that Roberts was denied a seat in the House, Bishop Gottlieb Hirschi died, January 24, ending nine years of service as a Bishop. He was the father of seven children, one of whom also became a Bishop of Rockville. Of his grand sons, one became the first President of Zion Park Stake, another, a Bishop of Rockville.

February 25, John Franklin Langston became the fourth Bishop of Rockville, John R. Terry was his first, and Christian Larsen, his second Counselor.

JOHN FRANKLIN LANGSTON  
1852-1910

Rockville's Fourth Bishop  
1900-1906

.....  
Married April 27, 1892 to : Sophia Annie Morris  
Born April 27, 1869  
Died April 1, 1942  
Daughter of Daniel  
.....

Children :

Sophia, b. Feb. 23, 1893, m. Mar. 5, 1913 to Marion Terry.  
Nancy, b. Jan. 23, 1897, m. May 10, 1928 to Robt. Faucett.  
Golden, b. April 14, 1899, d. May 16, 1931, m. Dec. 27, 1921  
to Effie Perkins.  
Francis, b. May 29, 1901, m. Sept. 15, 1926 to Maude Beardol.  
Carl, b. May 20, 1903, m. June 1, 1926 to Bernice Thuman.  
Clarinda, b. Oct. 4, 1905, m. Oct. 22, 1924 to V.B. Prisbrey.  
Hazel, b. Mar. 3, 1908, m. Oct. 31, 1929 to Ben Lee.  
.....

The family photograph of Bishop John F. Langston  
was taken about November, 1908.

Top row : Sophia (Terry), Nancy L. (Faucett).  
Seated : Golden, Bishop Langston, Carl Reed,  
Sophia Morris Langston, Francis Ivan,  
Front : Clarinda (Prisbrey), and Hazel (Lee).  
.....

Photograph on page 108



John F. Langston Family



# 1900 - Roberts Kicked Out

The Presidential campaign of 1900 was a carbon copy of the 1896 battle. It was gold vs. silver again, or Bryan vs. McKinley. The first wore a crown of silver while McKinley still had his crown of gold. Which side of the fence would Rockville ? She was silver in 1896 and gold in 1898. The Democrats looked upon Bryan as an earthly god and arrogantly boasted that he would defeat McKinley easily. The Republicans used better judgement and campaigned harder with no boasting. Rockville took a brave attitude toward the election. :

	McKinley-R Bryan-D		Southerland-R King-D		Wells-R Moyle-D	
Grafton	29	9	9	29	9	29
Rockville	47	22	22	47	23	46
Springdale	19	26	25	21	24	21
Virgin	48	33	33	48	33	48
Wash. Co.	410	1003	398	1010	740	765
Utah	47089	45006	46180	45939	47600	44447
.....						

All four towns were in disagreement with Washington County. None of the villages voted consistently. Each town voted for the man, disregarding party lines. Rockville and Virgin each kept its golden crown.

Uncle Sam counted his citizens in 1900. For the first time Shonesburg was not counted. The count : Grafton, 98; Rockville, 214, Springdale, 144, and Virgin, 269.

A church census for Rockville listed, 211. three non-members of the church. There were 38 families in the ward. A priesthood count gave 5 high priests, 4 seventies, 15 elders, 7 priests, 5 teachers, and 24 deacons. There were 71 children under 8 years of age.

## 1901 - A New Century

Rockville celebrated the arrival of the Twentieth century with the ringing of bells, whistling, loud laughter dancing, and boisterous behavior. Why shouldn't Rockville relax and forget her 39 years of hard pioneer life? The new century offered hope and a fuller life. Her 214 inhabitants were inspired to achieve a greater tomorrow with fewer obstacles.

The people of Rockville were not responsible for the blunders committed by the legislature of 1899. Many citizens in Washington County believed that silver should be the standard of money exchange. They opposed the election of a silver miner who ran for the Senate on a gold platform.

The failure of the 1899 session to elect a U.S. Senator made that responsibility the first order of business. The errors of the Third Legislature were obvious. Using 165 ballots to nominate a candidate when 5 ballots was enough to select a senator was outrageous. The insane act must not be repeated. The Republicans used good judgement in the 1901 session. With a comfortable majority they held caucuses among themselves until one man received a majority, then all Republicans united behind that one candidate. The caucus ended January 22 when Thomas Kearns received 19 votes. A joint session was convened where Kearns received 37 votes and the nomination.

Thomas Kearnes, a silver miner, became a gold senator from the silver state of Utah. This conflict infuriated the Tribune editor who immediately charged that Kearns had purchased the senatorship from the church. This charge proved to be all hogwash.

The members of the legislature were inexperienced in legislation and ignorant in medical science. In 1901, Utah was plagued by a smallpox epidemic. The medical leaders of Utah issued an order requiring all pupils be



## 1901 - A New Century

vaccinated before entering school. The order went into effect, January 1, 1901. This act produced a wave of protest throughout the state. The uneducated viewed the edict as a violation of human rights and liberties. The people of Rockville were not tainted by these illusions, they fully endorsed the edict which aimed to protect the health of the children. Unfortunately, Rockville's citizens had very little influence on the members of the legislature. These hilly-billy law makers proceeded to enact legislation which admitted all pupils into the schools without vaccination. Governor Wells promptly vetoed it, but both houses passed the measure over his veto.

David H. Morris, Dixie's Representative, sustained the governor's veto, but Dixie's Senator, Tanner was too weak, he voted to over-ride. That put a black eye on the voters on the Virgin. In the election of 1902, the voters on the upper Virgin, got their revenge, they kicked him out, saying "no thanks for his stupidity." This episode is the session's most ignominious blunder.

The passage of the anti-vaccination bill over the governor's veto was a step in opposition to progress. This one act alone stamped the members of the session as a pack of hill-billies just awaking from the dark ages.

Rockville's Representative, David H. Morris, was not implicated in that disgraceful action.

## 1902 - Silver Issue Dies

The production of silver in Utah rose from 8,728,705 ounces in 1896 to 10,831,700 in 1902 and continued to increase thereafter. Silver, accordingly, became too plentiful to use as money. Gold was a more practical medium of exchange, it was rare and difficult to produce. The Democrats of Washington County claimed gold was too rare, but the people of Rockville disagreed with the

## History of Rockville

majority in the county. In spite of these views, the scarcity of gold made it an ideal standard of exchange. This explains why Congress passed the "Gold Standard Act" in 1900 which established gold as the sole standard of exchange. Even Bryan was forced to accept its validity. The lunacy of the silver cause killed the Democratic party in Utah during the next 14 years.

The aim of the November election was the selection of a Congressman and a partisan legislature. Both parties went all out to win their objectives. The Legislature was the prime target. The party that won a majority in both houses would be able to elect the next U.S. Senator from Utah.

The Republicans committed a blunder in its state convention when it dumped George Sutherland for the mediocre Joseph Howell. Sutherland was Utah's greatest statesman and jurist. The delegates were too incompetent to judge the qualifications of the two men.

The Democrats nominated William H. King. The Republicans had previously nominated Joseph Howell.

All lay Republicans were asking: "Why did the party first dump Sutherland for a fake like Kearns in 1900, then later, dump Sutherland for a third rater like Howell?" The answer: "Boss rule."

After Congress adjourned in late spring, Senator Joseph L. Rawlings returned to Utah to aid the Democrats in their campaign to win a majority in the next Legislature. His term in the Senate was due to expire March 4, 1903. His mission in Utah was partisan. If the Democrats won a majority, Rawlings just might be re-elected. His entrance into the campaign set fire to the fight. The Republicans came alive and began a bombardment. Their secret candidate turned out to be Reed Smoot whose very name caused a sensation that lasted 30 years.

November 4 the fatal election took place. The Tribune editor shouted:

"Republicans Sweep State, Legislature Republican"

	Howell-R	King-D	Lewis-R	Jones-D	Harder-R	Morris-D
Grafton	6	23	9	21		
Rockville	28	40	43	23	no records	
Springdale	22	9	22	9		
Virgin	32	39	31	40		
Wash. Co.	507	855	529	829	840	521
Utah	43710	38196	2255	1979		

.....

The legislative returns gave the Republicans 52 members, the Democrats, 11.

It was certain, therefore, that the legislature would elect a Republican to the U.S. Senate.

Not since 1896 had Rockville given a majority to a Democratic candidate, but why King, that was a mystery?

### 1903 - The Issue Was Smoot

Rockville was vitally interested in the selection of a progressive senator to serve Utah. In the election of 1902, Rockville had voted for two men, who, the voters believed, would have a voice in the selection of a senator.

Utah's Fifth Legislature met January 12 to elect a member to the Senate. That body had 52 Republicans and 11 Democrats which gave the former a safe majority in the election. Would they fail as had the Democrats in 1899 when they too had a large majority? That failure

## History of Rockville

was due to the Democratic incompetence and irresponsibility. The leadership of the 1903 session was determined not to repeat those errors. The Republican majority was pledged to conduct a clean campaign in the selection of a senator without inter-party strife and jealousies.

Each party nominated its candidate for the position. The Democrats named Joseph L. Rawlings, while the Republicans nominated Reed Smoot - whose name caused a loud protest from the non-Mormons who saw him as a symbol of church domination. A Mormon Apostle, it was alleged, would dominate politics, if elected. This fear of a union of church and state became the campaign issue of 1903.

At this stage of the contest, Senator Kearns entered the controversy. He claimed to have a special message from President Roosevelt to the people of Utah. This fraudulent document warned the Utah Legislature not to elect Reed Smoot or Utah would suffer serious consequences. The hoax was ignored by the legislators. Kearns, accordingly, became Smoot's worst enemy in the four year fight for the seat in the Senate.

The Republicans members held a caucus to choose a party candidate. In the first ballot, Smoot received 38, Southerland, 5 and Governor Wells, 2. This action inflamed the non-Mormons to a white heat. Before the final vote was taken, two Republican members delivered bitter speeches against Smoot. Such action, they declared, would bring "humiliation to all."

The voting was held January 20. Smoot received 45, Rawlings 10, and Wells 6. There were six Republicans who voted against Smoot, they voted for Wells instead. All ten Democrats voted for Rawlings. There was one voter who was neither a gentile nor a non-Mormon. He, Simon Bamberger, a Jew, was the only consistent voter in the group, he could not swallow a Mormon Apostle.

How did Rockville and the upper Virgin react to this strange election? The people of Washington County

### 1903 - The Issue Was Smoot

were involved in that election. Two of Rockville's representatives were in the Legislature who helped to resolve the Smoot case. One was A. B. Lewis, Senator in the 11th Senatorial District, he voted for Smoot. In the election which chose Lewis (1902), Rockville had given him a 43 to 23 vote. The voting of David H. Morris was not recorded by the county clerk, but we know he voted against Smoot for all ten of the Democrats in the House voted for Rawlings.

In June a horrible scandal burst into flames in Grafton where Bishop William Isom was excommunicated for adultery. This blow caused a sensation in the village. June 23 the Stake authorities came to Grafton and announced that Isom was being released. Isom was replaced by James M. Ballard, an ex-bishop.

### 1904 - Rockville Loyal to Smoot

Utah's election of 1904 found Rockville loyal to the Smoot candidates while the rest of Washington County went Democratic in the major contests. One voter in the county disgraced the people by casting his vote for both Hiles and Ferry of the American party. That voter was not a resident of the upper Virgin.

The agitation had begun in 1903 when the Utah Legislature, in opposition to world opinion, elected Reed Smoot to the Senate. The anti-Mormon population charged that church influence was responsible for his election. To the Protestant public his election was indeed a union of church and state - a "stooge of the First Presidency." From these false assumptions the conclusion was drawn that the Mormon President was a political dictator. These charges were as untrue as they were ridiculous. The enemies of the church rejected all denials so the controversy continued with ever increasing intensity.

## History of Rockville

The petition signed by the 19 protestors was duly submitted to the Senate Committee on Privileges who was investigating Smoot's right to a seat. The Committee asked Smoot to submit in writing his answer to all charges made in the petition. His answer was a clear and convincing repudiation of all the charges made in the petition. The two main charges were first, that he was a polygamist, and second his temple oaths were inconsistent with those he took when he entered the Senate. He denied both allegations as untrue.

Charges and denials continued for two months. President Joseph F. Smith was one of the key witnesses for Smoot. He denied that any polygamous marriages had been performed in the church since the Manifesto (1890). His statement was true as far as he knew the truth. The President had not permitted any plural marriages since the manifesto, but, unknown to him, plural marriages had been performed in the temple without his knowledge or permission. A certain group headed by John W. Taylor and M. Cowley had been performing plural marriages in the temple since 1890 right under Smith's nose without his knowledge or consent. This discovery shocked President Smith.

While the hearings went merrily on, President Smith returned to Utah highly disturbed by the charges of plural marriages being performed in the temple without his knowledge. On arrival in Salt Lake he attended a conference in the Tabernacle where he asked his audience if they still approved the manifesto. In a unanimous vote, the members approved the prohibition of polygamy in all the world (April 6). Accordingly, President Smith issued a new edict prohibiting polygamy in all the world.

The new manifesto affected the lives of some members in Rockville, who, 31 years later, were excommunicated for plural marriages (see 1935).

1904 was an election year. A governor, congressman and an army of lesser officials were involved. The people of Rockville were disgusted by the appearance or

1904 - Rockville Loyal to Smoot

resurrection of the old Liberal party masquerading as an accepted political party. The Liberal party had died in 1893 after 34 years of dishonorable existence. The new party used the name - "American" - a very inappropriate name since its philosophy of government was anti-American. The party's god father was the Tribune its principal sponsor was the Baptist Church. That church indorsed the new party as the only salvation for Utah. The Tribune took a very hostile attitude toward the Republican party and its alliance with Reed Smoot. For this "apostacy", the Republican party of Utah "excommunicated" the Tribune from the party.

Once the Tribune was expelled from Republican society the party felt reprieved from a scourge. A convention was held, April 8, in which the Roosevelt administration was indorsed, candidates selected. Governor Wells failed to be re-nominated for a third term by only 10 votes. Since only the friends of Reed Smoot were nominated, the non-Mormons bolted and walked out screaming :

" No Church Influence in Political Affairs."  
These rebels solemnly announced the formation of a new party and pledged :

" Our life, our liberty, our property and our sacred honor to the over-throwing of the Church as a Temporal Power."

These rebels met September 30 and nominated a ticket and issued a proclamation guaranteeing freedom from " Church domination and priestly control."

The American party, consumed by prejudice, suffered from illusions from which they could not escape - result : hopeless frustrations.

Each of the three parties were absolutely certain of victory. The results surprised every one.

The results of the election :



Rockville did not give one vote to any of the American candidates. One voter in Washington County cast his vote for Ferry and Hiles. The American party did not elect one member of the Legislature, and was a poor third in all the major contests :

.....

	Roosevelt-R	Parker-D	Howell-R	Powers-D	Hiles-A	Cutler-R	Moyle-D	Ferry-A	Miller-R	Cotton-D
.....										
Grafton	11	21	72	19	0	10	21	0		
Rockville	48	8	43	19	0	41	21	0		
Springdale	36	8	37	7	0	35	9	0		
Virgin City	31	39	31	39	0	31	39	0		
Wash. Co.	715	763	715	767	1	691	793	1	650	834
Utah	62446	33413	52675	37405	7959	50837	38047	6796		
.....										

Washington County went Democratic while Utah went Republican as did the nation. Rockville and Springdale went strongly Republican while Grafton and Virgin City went Democratic. That scallowag who voted for the two American candidates should have been ridden out of the county on a rail. We are certain he did not live on the upper Virgin.



## 1905 - That "Church Monarchy"

The people of Rockville were not impressed by the American party nor its mission. The Rockville election of 1904 verified that fact. The party's philosophy was based on perfidious sophistry and twisted illusions. The people on the upper Virgin were too intelligent to be deceived by such lunacy. Was the birth of the American party in Utah justified? Its resurrection under a bogus label was based on false assumptions. It was alleged that the people of Utah were dominated by Smoot who was a tool of a corrupt "Church Monarchy."

Thomas Kearns, Utah's Senator since 1901, coined the false label of the church in his last and only speech in the Senate, February 28. In that outburst, infamy fell to a new low when the millionaire pretender vomited up four years of accumulated venom which had poisoned his mind against the very people who were responsible for his election in 1901. In revenge for alleged failure to back his re-election ambition, he spared no vituperative language in a vicious vilification of the "Church Monarchy" and its alleged "crimes of political domination and corruption."

His speech caused a sensation in Utah. The Tribune shouted, March 1, p. 4 :

"Utah a dishonored betrayer."

The News retorted, March 1, p. 1 :

"We are sorry for Thomas Kearns. We pity him in the fate which he has earned, our deepest contempt."

B. H. Roberts, in a speech at Provo, March 14, reduced Kearns to the size of a cheap imposter - which he was. After Kearns returned to Utah, he rapidly sank into oblivion.

Utah's sixth Legislature met January 9 and heard Governor Cutler deliver his message to the session. He emphasized the importance of electing a statesman to the Senate, not a cheap politician who defames his own state. In a joint session, held January 17, each party announced

## History of Rockville

its candidate for the senatorship. The six brave Democrats proudly named William H. King. The Republicans, whose majority was 57, chose George Sutherland. That settled the contest. The odds did not frighten Thomas Cotton, the Democratic Representative from Washington County, he boldly and proudly voted for King. A.B. Lewis, Washington County's Senator, was obligated to vote for Sutherland.

The sixth Legislature passed a major act of great importance. The so-called Registration of births and deaths act. There was little opposition to it. Even Thomas Cotton, the hard shelled Democrat, approved it.

This legislation was notice to the world that Utah was no longer living in the dark ages when record keeping was prohibited by superstition. Utah should have enacted the registration act in 1896. At that time the legislature was too blind to recognize its need. The science of genealogy had made progress by the enactment of this legislation.

## 1906 - A War on Truth

Truth has always been in conflict with untruth. This explains why there was so much opposition to Smoot. He stood for truth and honesty which explains the bitter opposition. The false allegations were found to be based on error and misrepresentations by hostile enemies. These were all repudiated as untruths. In time, Smoot was completely vindicated.

In the trial of Smoot, which began February 7, the prosecution presented its strongest witnesses who were expected to convict Smoot. Instead, these slanders were exposed as perverters of the truth. In June the committee took action. They had received 150,000 petitions all demanding that Smoot be denied a seat. The resolution to deny was supported by seven senators, 5 opposed.

1906 - A War on Truth

June 11, the committee report was submitted to the Senate floor for final consideration. There the bill remained for 255 days. The question to be resolved : " Shall Smoot be Seated ?" The wrangling never ended till well into 1907.

Meanwhile, Utah was involved in an election. In the political campaign we witness three parties all claiming to be advocating the truth. The Republicans held their convention, September 20 and nominated Joseph Howell. A platform was adopted and Roosevelt's administration was fully endorsed.

It was the American party that put life into the campaign. Their convention was held September 21. Its war cry : " Emancipate Utah from tyranny and priestcraft." This offended the Republicans and drew scorn from the Democrats. The American platform was labeled : " A Noble cause", by the Tribune. The convention nominated Thomas Weir for Congress.

The egotistical Democratic party viewed with contempt both Republican and American parties. It assumed the role of a divine redeemer come to earth to rescue from the clutches of a false religion corrupt political doctrines and masquerading as a divine party in politics. The Democrats warned that a vote for either faction would invite a guerrilla war between the churches. To prevent that disaster, the Democrats promised clean government and religious liberty to all citizens.

The electorate ignored this appeal and gave the Republicans an overwhelming victory.

The two legislative contests in Washington County were won by Democrats. Inefficiency on the part of the County Clerk was responsible for the failure to record the returns of the four towns on the upper Virgin.

To complicate the political situation, David Hirschi, a candidate for the Utah House, was appointed Bishop of the Rockville Ward. It is possible he received a majority of the Rockville vote since Albert

# History of Rockville

Miller, the Republican candidate for the Senate, won by a 46 to 23 majority. Rockville had regularly voted Republican.

The 1906 election returns .

	Howell -R	Powers - D	Weir - A	A. Miller- R	D. Morris- D	D. Hirschi - R	T. Cottam- D
Grafton	15	18	0	14	19		
Rock.	48	21	0	46	23		
Sprin.	36	8	0	34	10	No records	
Virgin	24	36	0	25	35		
			3				
Wash.	657	686		601	748	628	723
Utah	42,560	27,021	11,411				

Joseph Howell won in Rockville and Springdale, while the anti-Mormon Democratic candidate - Powers, won Grafton and Virgin. Was there a good reason ?

The year saw a change in the Bishopric in Rockville. March 22, John F. Langston resigned due to health. Six Months later, September 12, David Hirschi, age 36, was appointed Bishop. Joseph H. Petty and Arthur Hall were chosen Counselors. David was the son of Gottlieb, born January 16, 1837, married September 14, 1861.

## 1907 - Smoot Vindicated

The day of decision arrived. The debate began January 11. The issue : " Shall Smoot be disgraced or vindicated ?" Each side used its heaviest artillery in the war of words.

The main argument used by the anti-Smoot forces was the old charge that the church was allegedly " un-American, a law-breaking conspiracy, a law defier which disqualified Smoot (as a church leader), thus making him unfit to serve in the Senate."

These were malicious falsehoods. The friends of Smoot rebuked these bigots for their ignorance and intolerance of Mormonism. These irrational senators would expell a member for the same reason Roger Williams was banished from Boston in 1636. These medieval bigots repeated the crimes committed by the Boston mob. This time the rabble's pleas proved fatal to the tyrants.

After 40 days of wrangling, February 20, the Senate reached a decision. Twenty-eight bigots voted for his explosion while 42 had the courage to say no. That ended the three-year fight. It was a complete vindication for Smoot. He was legally and morally entitled to his seat. The bigots were sent into oblivion.

The Smoot case had been based on ignorance and bigotry. To inform the world of the basic facts involved in the controversy, the church issued an address to the world giving the facts in the case, April 5 :

" Mormonism is in the world for the World's good. Teaching truth, inculcating morality, guarding the purity of the home, honoring authority and government, fostering education, and exalting men and women, our religion denounces crime, and is a foe to tyranny in every form. We seek to uplift, not to destroy society. ... It lifts an ensign of peace to all people."

The Tribune called the epistle : "rot and deceit."

## History of Rockville

This was the kind of a church the devils in the Senate had been trying to destroy during the previous three years.

Still the anti-Mormons were screaming that the church was completely "deceptive, unchristian and unbiblical."

The people of Rockville were appalled by the great events involving Smoot's narrow escape from oblivion. The cruel war waged against his admission was inspired from evil sources.

November 11, the Grafton ward was disorganized due to the exit of too many members. The few who remained were organized as a Branch of the Rockville ward with James N. Stanworth as Presiding Elder.

## 1908 - Mormon Americanism

The disturbing events of 1907 had a profound effect on the political situation as 1908 came rushing in. The vindication of Smoot had no adverse affect on the morale of the American party members. Smoot's victory antagonized the "Liberals" to a white heat. The political campaign for votes in the state contests became intensified. The success of Smoot also encouraged the Mormons to resist the implication that they should be "Christianized" by "anti-Christians."

The victory of the American party at the municipal election of 1905, had, as its objective, the "Americanization" of the Mormons, who refused, they claimed, to be "Americanized" by "anti-Americans". This failure to "Americanize" the Mormons caused a head-on clash between the leaders of the two factions.

All three parties held conventions in September and nominated candidates for governor, congress and other high offices. The egoistical American leaders

1908 - Mormon Americanism

were suffering from a superiority complex evident by their stigmatizing " Church Republicans," and " Mormon Democrats" as deficient politicians - not worthy of recognition. They pretended to be the " True American party" with a divine message to the people of Utah. Thus " endowed" with superior talents they declared war on their "inferiors." The egoistical Frank J. Cannon, in a speech at the American convention, boastfully threatened to send the church leaders to prison if the American party won the election! These imprudent remarks had an adverse affect on public opinion in Utah and eventually proved fatal to his party. There is " no difference", he added, " between a Mormon Democrat and a Church Republican", both he claimed, " were stooges of the Mormon Church." He scornfully predicted an American land-slide. After making that boast, retreat was impossible. He had gone so far that defeat would have killed him. Yes, there was a land-slide, but not the kind Cannon ordered. The Republican avalanche completely engulfed him. After the disaster, Cannon had but one choice - escape from Utah - in disgrace. It was a bolt of lighting which completely paralyzed his will power - he secretly fled to Denver.

The Republican victory included all state-wide officials. The Democrats won two seats in the Legislature - one was in Washington County. That triumph insured Smoot's re-election in 1909.

There was another land-slide in Utah but not by the Americans. The only county in Utah to give William J. Bryan a majority was Washington. There, all the Democratic candidates received a majority of the votes. That explains why David H. Morris was elected to the House. His apponent was another David (Hirschi), Bishop of Rockville. Virgin was the only town on the upper Virgin which gave Morris a majority. Grafton, Rockville and Springdale gave Morris a well deserved whipping. Instead, they gave their Bishop (Hirschi) healthy majorities.

These same towns gave majorities to Taft, Howell and Governor Spry. Utah went overwhelmingly <sup>Republican.</sup>

	Taft-R	Bryan-D	Howell-R	Martineau-D	Douglas-A	Spry-R	Knight-D	Street-A	Hirschi-R	Morris-D
Grafton	17	9	17	9	0	17	9	0	22	4
Rockville	44	18	44	19	0	42	21	0	47	16
Springdale	39	13	40	12	0	38	14	0	45	7
Virgin	31	31	31	33	0	30	33	0	30	34
Wash. Co.	738	810	732	815	1	713	830	0	768	780
Utah	61,115	42,601	52,544	32,981	290	52,913	43,266	11,404		

Local elections in the four upper towns for Justice of the Peace, are given :

Grafton - Alonzo Russell ; Rockville, Frank Petty, Springdale, F. D. Gifford, Virgin, James Jepson.

For Constable :

Grafton, Charles Jones, Rockville, B. Dalton Springdale, Harold Russell, Virgin, J. H. Lee.

A tragedy high on the mountain north of Rockville occurred July 28 when two young men were struck by lightning and killed. Lionel Stout and Thornton Hepworth were the victims.



DAVID HIRSCHI  
1870-1938

Rockville's Fifth Bishop  
1906-1921

.....

Married October 3, 1890 to : Mary Matilda Petty  
Born August 20, 1872  
Died October 17, 1946  
Daughter of Joseph

.....

Children :

Claudius, b. 1892, d. 1957, m. 1918 to Anna Workman.  
Heber, b. 1895, d. 1968, m. 1918 to Evelyn Langston.  
Kenneth, b. 1897, m. 1918 to Olive Squire.  
Susie, b. 1899, m. 1918 to Joseph Taylor.  
David, b. 1902, d. 1942, m. 1922 to Allie DeMille.  
Hugh, b. 1905, d. 1959, m. 1929 to Hazel Isom.  
Annona, b. 1907, m. 1926 to Morris Kleinman.  
Junius, b. 1908, d. 1926.  
Jennie, b. 1910, m. 1929 to DeNor Ballard.



DAVID HIRSCHI

## 1909 - Prohibition Comes Alive

A wet governor was inaugurated January 4 and an imprudent legislature met a week later to challenge his irrational legislative program. The session began with 61 Republicans and ended with 3 in 1917 all due to incompetency. This same session began with two Democrats in 1909 and ended in 1917 with 53 Democrats, all due to Republican stupidity.

It is alleged that these two Democrats "possessed more wisdom and intelligence than the combined, mis-led, and irrational 61 Republicans." Hammond of Moab and Morris of St. George "served as a balance wheel to prevent complete chaos in legislation." We noted above that Morris had defeated Hirschi by a 12 vote margin, but in the four upper Virgin towns, Hirschi had a 83 vote margin. Therefore, Morris's victory was due to the 719 votes which came from the lower communities. Rockville had given 47 votes to Hirschi. Could anyone expect Rockville to vote against its own Bishop?

The session's first order of business was the election of a U.S. Senator. Since there were 61 Republicans and two Democrats the result was expected. David Morris had other plans. He boldly nominated William H. King for the Senate and promised his friends that King would win. John H. Watton calmly nominated Reed Smoot. In a joint session, January 20, Smoot received 43 votes and was declared elected. Morris was unimpressed, he still claimed to have won a moral victory.

Albert E. Miller, Dixie's Senator, voted for Smoot. That vote gave Rockville a claim on the U.S. Senate. Rockville had helped Miller to win in 1906. In spite of Morris' opposition to Smoot, Rockville had the satisfaction of knowing it had contributed to Smoot's election.

Prohibition was another problem. Miller and Morris were both opposed to the saloon. Morris had earlier introduced into the House a petition signed by 784 residents of Washington County urging the passage of a law

## 1909 \_ Prohibition Comes Alive

against the sale of liquor. January 23 Representative Cannon had introduced a measure into the House prohibiting the sale of liquor any where in Utah. February 11, this bill was approved by Morris and 41 other members. February 15, this bill was introduced into the Senate where Rockville's Senator, Albert E. Miller and four other senators approved it, but, unfortunately, 13 other senators rejected it. That killed the Cannon bill.

The friends of prohibition in the Senate, drafted a new bill, a poor substitute for the Cannon bill which was notoriously defective and weak. Because of its defects, it was passed. The House also passed it, 33 to 9. On that day, the legislature adjourned. Taking advantage of the situation, Governor Spry immediately vetoed it. Henceforth, Spry was known as the "Whisky governor." The death of the first prohibition bill did not crush the hopes of the prohibitionists who coined a new slogan: "A Fight to the Death."

Spry's veto, was the first gun fired in Utah's new campaign for absolute prohibition. The veto inspired the people to enter into the struggle and fight to the death the war waged by the saloon devils. It was widely alleged that dirty politicians had deceitfully conspired with the saloon keepers to defeat the Cannon bill, and promote the enactment of the wet Badger bill, which in reality, was a saloon bill.

The Legislature of 1909 was the worst managed legislative body in Utah history. Sixty-one Republicans and two Democrats did not insure harmony and efficiency; on the contrary, it promoted dead-locks and endless wrangling. The huge majority became uncontrollable and irresponsible. It developed into many free-for-alls between Republicans. The session became a life and death struggle between prohibitionists and the saloon men; a contest between the sabbath worshippers and the non-Christians; the farmer and the city dwellers; and finally, between the laborer and the capitalist.

## History of Rockville

Obviously, under the circumstances, no progress could be made on prohibition legislation.

Utah's whisky governor displayed statesmanship just once (February 25) when he advocated the construction of a State Capital. That proposal was approved by every member of the group provided it did not require financial sacrifices. The old attitude was common : Let the other fellow pay the construction costs, but the building should be "erected in my county." Most of the law makers wanted a capital built, but were opposed to building it in Salt Lake City. The citizens of Kane County wanted the capital built in Kanab. Our Mr. Morris wanted it built in St. George. In fact, the citizens of every county demanded that the capital be built locally. The one exception was Rockville, these people were broad minded enough not to demand its construction in Rockville!

These jealousies proved fatal to the cause. Resistance to the proposal became so strong that when a state wide referendum was held, June 8, the proposition was defeated 6,884 to 4,226. Three counties had a majority for the capital. Four small towns wanted a capital built on condition it would be built in : Loa, Bluff, Leeds or Oak City! The fight for a capital became a laughing matter.

The Washington County News was too lazy to print the results of the referendum in the towns. Instead, it reported that 80 voters favored the proposal while 305 opposed. Such a record disgraced the county. Could Rockville have contributed some of those 305 votes ? Heaven forbid! The dream of building a capital in 1909 died of heart failure.

The school house in Rockville which had burned down prompted the people to build a new one. April 19, a mass meeting was held in which plans for the building a new school and amusement hall were approved.

## 1910 - The " Dry " Democrats

The unsavory prohibition record made by the Republicans in 1909 caused a wave of indignation throughout Utah. When 1910 arrived the saloons were riding high and tough-unchallenged and supreme. A do nothing whisky governor was was content to let the problem continue un resolved. With the exception of three dry counties - Wasatch, Morgan and Sevier - Utah was all wet. The problem in 1910 was, shall Utah become more wet or dryer ? This was resolved by the Democratic party who decided to cash in on the dry sentiment and put prohibition in their 1910 platform. To win the election, it was imperative that the party adopt prohibition as its doctrine. That was done at the State Democratic convention, September 15.

The Republicans were unable to face realities. Their leaders adopted a wet program while the lay members were dry. At their convention, the issue was dodged. The favored prohibition of liquors outside the limits of incorporated cities and local option within all incorporated cities. Where an election favored liquors within these incorporated cities, these cities should be authorized to regulate the sale of liquors. So the Republican platform was a far cry from the strong Cannon bill of 1909. The rank and file members of the Republican party stood up and demanded the Cannon measure be enacted. But the wet faction of the party blocked this move so that the party adopted a wet platform. This was proof to all genuine prohibitionists that the Republican leaders had bowed to the liquor interests as an expediency to win votes. This dodging of the issue cost the Republicans two seats in the Senate and five in the House in the up coming election.

B. H. Roberts accused the Reoublicans of making a nefarious deal with the liquor interests. In spite of

# History of Rockville

these charges, the Republicans won all atate-wide offices and smaller majorities in both houses of the legislature. This was the first time Virgin had given all four Republican candidates a majority.

.....

	Howell-R	Erickson-D	Senate Lunt-R	Tilton-D	House Imlay-R	Morris-D
Grafton	10	6	10	6	9	7
Rockville	27	15	27	15	26	16
Springdale	34	9	31	12	30	13
Virgin	27	16	28	15	36	7
Wash. Co.	719	763	694	788	668	818
Utah	49336	31308				

.....

## 1910 U.S. Census

Town	1890	1900	1910
Grafton	104	98	106
Rockville	194	214	189
Springdale	73	144	186
Virgin	213	269	136
Washington Co.	4,009	4,612	5,123
Utah	210,779	276,749	373,351

## 1911 - A Referendum on Whisky

The Republican victory in 1910 had not resolved the prohibition problem as 1911 came roaring in. The Republican majority proceeded to enact a prohibition measure including a local option bill that was unsatisfactory to the prohibitionists. This legislation known as the Badger act was in fact a counterfeit liquor bill. It provided for islands of dry and wet towns in the same county which proved to be a serious mistake. The law proved to be ineffective and unenforceable. The bill provided for a mandatory election in all cities on June 27. The people were to decide for or against the sale of intoxicants.

January 19 this "bogus" liquor bill had been introduced. The measure was passed and signed by the whisky governor, March 20. In the referendum of June 27 the issue was : " Do you want saloons, or not ?" A total of 71,243 citizens answered. Those voting "no" were 39,766. Those voting "yes", were 31,477. There were 23 towns who wanted the saloon, while 50 cities objected. The lazy news reporters refused to report the voting on the upper Virgin towns, but we know they all went dry. St. George had 292 dry votes and 10 wet. The town of Washington had 85 dry votes and six wet.

Indeed, Utah won a counterfeit prohibition law, but at a terrific price, it was a sorrowful substitute for the genuine article. Originally, a bogus liquor bill, it developed into a counterfeit regulation measure unsatisfactory to wets and dries alike.

Soon after Rockville had made its decision at the polls, the people celebrated the 24th of July with bells ringing and cannon firing. It began at 6 A.M. with a live parade and a martial band playing. A banner read : " Utah as it was and is." A large group of children, labeled : " Utah's BEST CROP."

A band of " Indians" made an attack on a hand-cart company. A base-ball game was played and a dance in the evening.



## 1912 - No Bull Moose for Rockville

A political turmoil rocked America in all states except Utah and Vermont. The three villages on the Virgin were totally disgusted with the sham revolt. Cause of the agitation was the "naked robbery" of 92 Roosevelt pledged delegates at the National Convention by the Taft forces. In protest against this robbery, Roosevelt and his fellow delegates, walked out of the convention in profound disgust. These delegates organized a new party, the Bull Moose, and nominated Roosevelt for the presidency. The Utah delegates witnessed this revolt in dismay, too frigid to join or object. Under the leadership of Reed Smoot, the Utah delegates were too faint-hearted to oppose Taft. One brave delegate did, C. E. Loose, boldly cast his allegiance to Roosevelt. No one dared to follow.

The rebels called themselves the Progressive party which which gained in strength and popularity until every state in the Union was flooded by the high ocean waves - except in Utah and Vermont. None of the waves reached Rockville, Grafton or Virgin. During the summer months Utahns witnessed three state conventions where candidates for governor and Congress were nominated.

The results of the November election was a surprise to all. Only in Utah and Vermont was Taft successful. Taft had a plurality in 22 Utah counties, Wilson in 4, Roosevelt, 2. In Washington County, Wilson received 833 votes; Taft, 712; and Roosevelt, 72. The candidates for Congress and governor received the same ratio of votes.

In the legislative contest, the Republicans won 16 seats in the Senate and 31 in the House. The Democrats elected 2 in the Senate and 14 in the House, a gain of 7. The Progressives won no seats. Eugene Debs, the Socialist candidate for President received 9,023 votes in Utah. Nephi Morris, the Progressive candidate for Governor,

received 23,591 in Utah and 47 in Washington County.

While the Progressives won no offices in the state,



# 1912 - No Bull Moose for Rockville

they woke up the people to the need of cleaning politics, restoring democracy back to the people and out-lawing the political bosses.

The results on the Virgin :

The objectives of the Bull Moose party had no influence on the people living on the upper Virgin. In the

	Wilson-D	Taft-R	Roosevelt-P	Johnson-D	Howell-R	Tolton-D	Spry-R	Morris-D	Andrus-R
Grafton	9	10	0	8	11	7	12	12	7
Rockville	20	24	0	20	24	22	22	25	19
Springdale	6	32	6	7	30	6	32	13	28
Virgin	5	20	0	5	20	5	20	7	17
Wash. Co.	833	712	72	839	722	833	739	847	757
Utah	36,519	42,100	24,174	36,640	43,133	36,076	42,552		

four towns, only 6 votes were cast for Roosevelt, 40 for Wilson, and 86 for Taft. In the contest for Congress, the four towns cast 85 votes for the incumbent Howell, While Johnson received only 40. Governor Spry, running for a second term, won by 86 votes from the Virgin voters they still had faith in the "Whisky governor".

## History - of Rockville

The contest for Washington 's Representative between Morris and Andrus was a lively one Morris won by a 90 majority. But Andrus received 14 more votes from the people on the upper Virgin. Rockville, standing alone, went for Taft and Howell but was tied in the governor's race. In the race for representative, Rockville changed its colors and gave a majority to a Democrat, something very unusual.

School closed in Rockville, April 5. Miss Maria Terry was the only student who graduated from the 8th grade.

The people of Rockville were regular tax payers. The County office listed the following persons who paid in 1912. The number after the name is the number of acres owned by the tax payer :

Edward H. Ballard - 13  
Roswell DeMille -- 120  
Daniel Q. Dennett - 100  
John Dennett - 160  
Thomas Farnes - 11.  
Alfred L. Hull - 174  
Sophia Langston - 40  
Alma Millett - 140  
William Spendlove - 160  
Mary Stocks - 29  
Jane R. Thorley - 160

Total - 1087 acres.

## 1913 - The Women Protest

The National Congress of Mothers declared War on Reed Smoot. A group of Mothers in the State of New York organized a crusade against Smoot and the Mormon "hierarchy", Tribune, January 9, p. 1 :

" Strong resolutions were adopted asking the Senate to re-open the Smoot case. ... Since the Mormon have violated all compacts which they made with the United States to gain amnesty, restoration of property and statehood. ... The Mormon leaders mis-use their restored property to compel the practice of polygamy, dominate civil affairs in Utah, and shield themselves, their crimes and their treason from punishment and from public judgment by means of the unconscionable use of financial and political power.

" The Mormon Church is a kingdom set up within the republic, holding for its purpose the destruction of christian marriage and free government."

The women of Rockville who were ardent admirers of Smoot, were shocked and angered by these false insinuations. These monstrous falsehoods emanating from supposedly virtuous women profoundly shocked the people of Rockville. It was inconceivable that the mothers of mankind could succumb to these fabrications.

The solid citizens of Rockville were highly disturbed by the voting of Senator Henry W. Lunt in the legislature. Democracy in that body had been thwarted by a group who sought power over the majority in legislation. These legislators from the rural counties, Washington was one, opposed re-apportionment that would give the heavily populated counties, equal representation with the rural counties. Washington county's senator, Henry W. Lunt, had voted against this reform and so was partly responsible for this inequitable representation. The people on the upper Virgin were strongly opposed to this mal-apportionment.

The people of Rockville were in favor of the 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The Republicans in

## History of Rockville

1912 had pledged to ratify that amendment if they won a majority in the legislature. They won a majority in the legislature but defaulted on the promise. By this dishonorable act, the Republicans committed political suicide. Senator Lunt was a party to that blunder, but Representative David H. Morris had voted for the measure.

Before adjournment of the legislature that body redeemed itself by passing two worthy measures, namely, a minimum wage for women, and an act prohibiting false advertising.

During the school year, 1913-14, Rockville supplied 11 students to the High School at Hurricane.

### 1914 - A Strange Wedding

The Roosevelt bolt from the Republican party in 1912 was agreeably healed in 1914 but not in Utah. The scars suffered by the Bull Moose in Utah were too deep for any political reconciliations. The Taft victory in Utah left the Progressive party in an angry mood. The Utah delegates to the G.O.P. Convention in 1912 were partly responsible for the theft of 92 votes which belonged to the Roosevelt delegation. Seven of the Utah delegates were implicated in that scandal. Result, Roosevelt and his supporters bolted and walked out. A minority remained and nominated Taft who boastfully predicted a landslide victory. That landslide victory took place in Utah and Vermont only. This spectacle was a vindication for Roosevelt and a national disgrace for Utah.

This episode made possible the famous wedding ceremony in 1914 between a Democratic bride and a Progressive bridegroom. This marriage took place in Utah where the Democratic ladies were courted by Progressive gentlemen who promptly nominated James H. Moyle for the Senate. The motive which drove these strange bed-

## 1914 - A Strenge Wedding

fellows to unite was a craving passion to defeat Reed Smoot. They hated Smoot with a passion that knew no bounds. Smoot, who possessed a cold personality, had failed to persuade the offended Progressives to join the Republican cause. These jilted Bull Mooses were unwilling to trust Smoot. That's where Moyle was successful. Moyle was a master at the art of winning confidences, he, using the tactics of a modern Napoleon, gained the support of the "home-less" Progressives who enthusiastically endorsed his candidacy for the Senate. Moyle was sustained by these Progressives when he charged that Smoot was offensive to a majority in Utah. That charge, however, was resolved by the November election.

In August the people of Rockville were stunned by the out-break of the World's greatest war. The World, these people thought, had exploded and gone mad. These Virgin villagers were so far away from Serbia, that it could be on a different planet. The assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, June 28, was the spark that set Europe on fire. Rockville was ten-thousand miles away but within four years men from the Virgin were fighting and dying in the war.

The election returns show the four Virgin towns strong for Smoot and the other Republican candidates. The greatest surprise was Washington County which went for Smoot but Democratic for all other candidates. The strange wedding between Moyle and the Progressives was soon headed toward the divorce court. Many enjoyed the defeat of Moyle whose egotism sent him into oblivion. Moyle's charge that Smoot was offensive to a majority in Utah was the greatest blunder ever committed by any one. Some one should have ridden Moyle out of Utah on a rail. Smoot eventually won in two more elections.

The 1914 election returns :

	Smoot-R	Moyle-D	Howell-R	Larson-D	Seegmiller-R	Wilkin-D	Miller-R	Morris-D
Grafton	7	2	17	2	17	2	17	2
Rockville	39	7	38	8	44	2	38	8
Springdale	48	4	41	11	43	9	42	10
Virgin City	28	4	27	5	29	4	29	4
Wash. Co.	789	779	751	812	784	787	760	803
Utah	56,281	53,128	29,481	27,449				

### 1915 - That Whisky Governor

The people in Rockville were prohibitionists. That was evident after the 1914 election when only dry candidates were successful. The referendum of June 27 affirmed that Rockville was dry. It indicated that prohibition sentiment was increasing.

February 11 the Senate passed a strong prohibition bill - only two votes were recorded against it. 17 days later, the House approved, 40 to 5. Sentiment was so strong for the measure that no veto could have killed it. Realizing this "danger" the crafty governor held the measure until after the legislature adjourned, then, deceitfully, vetoed it. This jolt fell like a bomb on

## 1915 - That Whisky Governor

the friends of prohibition. The whisky governor had pulled a fast one. Spry had won a great victory over the people whose hopes lay in ruins. The reaction in Rockville was vehement. There was talk of a lynching party. Spry was deservedly frightened.

Meanwhile, there was a war going on in Utah's House. The office of Speaker was at stake. The law required that he be elected by a majority. Each party had 23 members. Both proceeded to elect its own Speaker. Result, the House had two Speakers, both illegal. So for three days, the House marked time. Both counterfeit speakers were too ignorant to know what to do. Each clung to his rostrums like demons, pledged to die rather than surrender. A secret caucus was held while one Democrat was absent. That gave the Republicans 25 votes, the Democrats, 24, otherwise the dead-lock would have lasted indefinitely. It was legislative fumbling at its worst.

Two events made history in 1915. The completion of the State Capital put Utah on the map. The campus revolt at the University of Utah gave Utah a bad name. Four professors were fired for attempting to dictate policies to the Board of Regents.

## 1916 - A Dry Jew Wins

The dry citizens of Rockville faced a dilemma. In previous elections, Rockville had generally voted Republican. In 1916, the situation had changed. Being anti-saloon by nature, the people were strongly in favor of an effective law that would prohibit. They realized the Republicans had made a mess of prohibition. For 9 years that party had made promises only to have its whisky governor fail to have these promises fulfilled. In 1916 these dry Republicans refused to re-nominate the wet governor. They chose a dry Mormon to re-place him.

## History of Rockville

This ultra dry Republican, Nephi L. Morris, Utah's strongest prohibitionist, but he was too strong a Mormon to satisfy the "Gentiles". This was the dilemma the Rockville voters were forced to face. Which of the two evils should they choose? A party with a horrible prohibition record headed by a Mormon prohibitionist; or, choose a Jewish Democratic leader who was luke-warm toward enforcement. The choice was difficult to make.

The dry Democratic voters in Washington County also faced a dilemma. They were forced to choose between a wet King and a dry platform that demanded complete prohibition. How could a wet King make Utah dry? If these Democrats wanted Utah to be come dry, they would have to vote for an ultra dry Mormon prohibitionist for the governor's seat. This, Utah and Washington County did not do, as we shall see later.

At the Democratic State Convention in August, the party nominated a wet candidate for the Senate and a dry Jew for the Governor's chair. This made an invincible team. This strange combination was supposed to win the support of a dry Utah! The Democratic convention resolved this inconsistency by adopting an ultra dry platform which condemned the Republican party and its leaders for their unholy alliance with the brewers and the whisky trust. The platform complained that the Republicans had for "many years shamelessly prevented Utah from obtaining prohibition of the liquor traffic. ...We denounce the leaders of the Republican party for their hypocrisy in now pretending to desire prohibition."

Public sentiment among the "Gentiles" strongly favored Bamberger the Jewish Democrat and violently opposed Nephi L. Morris the Mormon dry Republican. The wet Republicans supported the dry Mormon candidate while the ultra dry Democrats supported a weak prohibitionist. That put Rockville in a dilemma. Who was the driest candidate? Undoubtedly, Morris was far more sincere as a prohibitionist, but he was purchased by the saloons and a wet gang of politicians whose past record on



## 1916 - A Dry Jew Wins

prohibition was dishonorable. The people of Rockville had to make this choice. They choose the lesser of two evils.

The party that had acquired the habit of winning elections was fast approaching a precipice. Its Waterloo occurred November 7. Its obituary was recorded in the election returns. Its burial was under a Democratic landslide. Its future was oblivion. Was the election a rebuke to Smoot? His enemies made that claim.

The defeat of Morris was not due to the "side-tracking" of Spry. The reason Spry failed to receive the nomination was his record of opposition to prohibition. The delegates knew a "wet" governor could not win the election. It was a Democratic year in politics, hence all Republicans, wet or dry, went down to defeat in the Democratic landslide.

Spry was right, a statute cannot reform an alcoholic. The public was ignorant of that scientific fact in 1916. A great prohibition wave was flooding the nation. Utah was caught up in the tide. Both parties demanded legislation to "cure the alcoholic." The people were in no mood to again trust a "wet" party even though its candidate (Morris) was a dry Republican. But Rockville and the other three Virgin towns, did trust Morris by giving him a healthy majority.

Rockville and her sister towns lived in a different political world from the rest of Washington County. Their voting pattern was just the opposite from the county. Their Bishop, David Hirschi, was strongly supported but the rest of the county defeated him, four votes were against him. They must have been anti-Mormons.

In Washington County all the Democratic candidates won. The State also gave the Jewish candidate the governorship to Bamberger and the re-election to Woodrow Wilson.

	Hughes-R	Wilson-D	Sutherland-R	King-D	Hoyt-R	Welling-D	Morris-R	Bamberger-D	Hirschi-R	Paxman-D
Grafton	8	10	8	10	9	10	12	6	18	0
Rockville	37	24	38	23	43	18	50	11	58	4
Springdale	42	30	42	29	43	27	43	28	55	15
Virgin City	39	15	41	11	41	11	46	17	50	3
Wash. Co	701	1397	746	1345	786	1306		1185	924	1170
Utah	54,137	84,145	56,862	81,057	29,902	40,035	59,522	78,502		

There was a local election held in Rockville. Marvin Terry was chosen Justice of the Peace and Philetus Jones made Constable.

The greatest shock was caused by a tidal wave that struck the legislature. One lone Republican was elected to the Senate. There were three hold-overs, otherwise the 1917 session would have been freed of all wet Republicans. In the House, there were no hold-overs. Not one Republican was elected. It was a vindication for the prohibitionists.

While the funeral proceedings were being held over the remains of John Barleycorn, the Republicans were in deep mourning over their fallen hero!

## 1917 - Exit, Demon Rum

The Republicans of Rockville were disturbed by the election returns when their favorite party candidates were defeated both nationally and locally. Even their own Bishop who was running for the legislature, lost to an unknown Democrat. But the voters in the rocky town were also prohibitionists - enemies of old Demon Rum - who deserved death by hanging. The Democrats, who, prior to 1915, had opposed prohibition, went all out in 1916 for prohibition. Bamberger, who was weak on prohibition, and all the other state-wide candidates, except King, had pledged to make Utah as dry as a bone. King was a notorious wet. He had won a majority in Grafton only, the other three towns had given Sutherland strong majorities. The citizens of Rockville whose candidates had lost, were compensated by the success of a dry party who was pledged to execute Demon Rum.

The people on the upper Virgin were interested in effective liquor legislation. The Governor, newly converted, had strongly recommended a tough liquor act that would put the saloon dealers out of business. The House promptly passed the act, January 23, with one negative vote, (Paxman) whom Rockville had voted against. The Senate concurred, February 1, 18 to 0. Senator Seegmiller approving. The Governor signed the bill, February 8.

This legislation was one of the strongest anti-saloon bills ever passed by a law making body. If the Utah measure succeeded in curing the alcoholic it would be a great contribution to humanity. But John Barleycorn vehemently disagreed with this theory. He insisted that drinking habits could not be cured by legislation. His resistance to the new law became so sharp that the legislature became alarmed and issued a resolution for an amendment to Utah's Constitution, later to be voted on.

This amendment was introduced into the House January 10 and approved, January 31, Rockville's Paxman approving. The Senate acted, February 21, Seegmiller also

## History of Rockville

voted for it. The people of Rockville were well pleased by these decisions.

Governor Bamberger was a man who honored his pledges. To him platform pledges were sacred promises. His legislative acts which helped the Virgin people most was the irrigation measure which gave water to her dry farmers. A public utilities commission was created to regulate utilities in Dixie. A corrupt practice act was passed and an industrial commission was organized. He committed one serious error when he signed appropriation measures that were far beyond Utah's income. This caused his defeat in 1920.

Rockville was swept off its feet by the out-break of war in April. The war to make the world "safe for democracy" burst into flames-even burning the people of Rockville, eventually. Two boys from this rocky village were caught in the conflagration.

A celebrated funeral was held in Rockville, August 1 when the twin scoundrels, Demon Rum and John Barleycorn were finally laid to rest. Utah's prohibition law went into effect on that day.

It was announced by the county school board that the cost of operating Rockville's school, 1916-1917, was \$1526.

## 1918 - Freedom Wins

Utah was an armed camp in 1918. The people of Rockville joined the nation in hectic preparations for a huge conflict that tested their patriotism to the 9th degree. It included war bonds, mass meetings to generate enthusiasm. The victory of democracy over autocracy was believed to be divinely sanctioned. The German leaders, it was alleged, were attempting to make the

# 1918 - Freedom Wins

world safer for autocracy and militarism. Democracy and autocracy were incompatible. The people of Rockville believed that God was on the side of democracy.

Both political parties held state and county conventions, nominated all candidates, and adopted strong pro-war platforms. Delegates from the upper Virgin attended a county convention in St. George where Joseph S. Snow was nominated by the Democrats for the House and Alexander Andrus by the Republicans. The Democratic platform declared " We Want no peace without Victory." The Republicans shouted : " Down with Kaiserism."

There were two elections in 1918. First the regular election for offices. Second a referendum on prohibition. The first :

	Wattis-R	Welling-D	McShane-R	Jones-D	Andrus-R	Snow-D
Grafton	0	14	2	12	5	9
Rockville	17	20	17	20	21	15
Springdale	36	23	36	23	38	20
Virgin City	21	11	23	11	23	11
Wash. Co.	429	879	426	832	531	780
Utah	20478	25327				

## History of Rockville

The returns in this election were mixed. Grafton voted straight Democratic. Rockville voted Democratic for Congress and the Utah Senate, but Republican for Andrus. Springdale was more consistent, she voted a straight Republican ticket-as did Virgin. The Republicans gained ten seats in the House. Washington County, as usual, went Democratic.

The three amendments presented to the electorate were all approved by the state. Rockville had a majority for all three. The vote in Utah on prohibition was 42,691 for and 15,780 against. Washington County was 934 for and 36 against. The four towns voted :

	Yes	No
.....		
Grafton	14	0
Rockville	30	0
Springdale	54	0
Virgin City	19	1
St. George	359	10
.....		

The crucial event in 1918 was the Armistice on November 11. Kaiserism was destroyed. Democracy was saved. The German generals were forced to accept unconditional surrender. The news reached Utah November 10 at 4 A.M. Governor Bamberger ordered a legal holiday. The whole state burst into a wild celebration. At last, " Freedom stood Triumphant."

Rockville and Grafton had cause for rejoicing. Two of their sons had paid the supreme sacrifice : Sterling Russell and Isaac H. Langston had helped to make the world safer for democracy.

In the Fourth Liberty Loan drive, Rockville had purchased \$3,200 in Liberty Bonds.

## 1919 - A Rejected League

Rockville was involved in the war too. A little village hidden in the mountains of southern Utah played an important role in the mighty war. Fifteen of her boys were enlisted in the great conflict. Two of them, listed above, had already made the supreme sacrifice. As 1919 arrived, there were still 13 boys in the service : Sherdon, David Waldon and Afton Ballard (the last two later served as bishops of Rockville), Lester, Leonard, and Arthur Dalton; Claudius (later a Stake President), George and Heber Hirschi (a bishop of Rockville, 1949-1951); Otto and George Jennings; Eugene Russell and Arthur Terry.

January 26, a memorial service was held in Rockville for Sterling Russell of Grafton. He was killed four days before the armistice, November 7, 1918.

In March the people subscribed \$4,246 to the Victory Loan Drive. Indeed, Rockville was truly involved in the war.

Governor Bamberger delivered his annual message to the Legislature, January 13 and was faced with ten more newly elected Republicans whose presence was a warning to keep the budget balanced, four of these new members were from southern Utah.

The war veterans from the upper Virgin were vitally interested in the Paris Peace Conference which began January 12. At this conference, America's inspired leader (Wilson), offered his "Fourteen Points" as a solution to the chaotic evils menacing the world. This was the greatest contribution which was made at the peace conference. France who was seeking revenge, demanded the complete destruction of Germany. Between these two extremes, a just solution was impossible.

Reed Smoot who was not a member of the conference, warned that unless a just treaty was created, the Senate would reject it - League and all. As Smoot predicted, a just peace was not written. Instead, a dishonorable



## History of Rockville

treaty was adopted which Wilson opposed but tolerated because it was tied to his beloved League of Nations. This organization he presented to the Senate, May 19, for their approval or rejection.

The Senate fought over this dangerous issue for six months. Senator King, Utah's great problem, led the fight for its ratification. The fiery debate was resolved, November 19. King and his League of Nations, plus the treaty, were defeated while Smoot was vindicated. The vote was 38 for and 53 against. The world was thrown into collision by this momentous event. This disaster was the product of a peace treaty that was based on vengeance and vindictiveness.

Returning to the Utah story, the Utah Legislature ratified the 18th Amendment, January 18. In a Special Session, held September 29 to October 6, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was also ratified.

Down on the Virgin, James N. Stanworth was released as Presiding Elder at Grafton and Philetus Jones was appointed to replace him.

There were 11 young students from Rockville who attended the high schools in Hurricane and St. George.

## 1920 - Democrats Swept Out

The Democrats usually carried Washington County from 1896 till 1912. Rockville generally on the opposite side of the fence. During those 16 years, the state of Utah voted Republican. A great change in sentiment took place in 1914. Even Washington County went Republican. Two years later, the prohibition issue changed everything. The Democrats carried Washington County and all of Utah. This brings us up to 1920.

Suddenly, like a volcanic eruption, the Democratic party was annihilated. Washington County had never deserted the Democratic party (except in 1914) but she did



## 1920 - Democrats Swept Out

in 1920. That was a different story, why ? How could Political sentiment change so quickly and so completely ?

It was Wilson's insistence that America join the League of Nations and ratify the war treaty. The people refused to be pushed around. The League's weaknesses were too conspicuous. Instead of making the world safer for democracy the League was making it safer for autocracy. The League had no back-bone nor teeth to enforce peace. It could punish a little state for mis-deeds, but a powerful nation went unpunished.

Utah was divided on the controversy. Smoot demanded reservations before ratification. King wanted the league ratified unconditionally. The treaty was signed at Versailles, January 10, with Uncle Sam " peeking in from the chicken coop."

A second attempt to join the League was made March 20, when the Senate took a second vote only to reject it again. Finally, May 27, Senator Knox proposed a resolution declaring a state of peace with Germany but Wilson vetoed it. Wilson and the Senate were both wrong. Wilson's League had no enforcing teeth. The Senate's reservations were also unworkable. So, the League was unfitted, incompetent, and clumsy to cope with the difficulties between nations. Both plans were as ineffective against war as a lone man is against a hurricane.

Meanwhile, in dry Rockville, the second death of John Barleycorn, January 16, was completely ignored. But in all the wet states, his death was the biggest event of the year. Even in Park City, the death of John was mourned by all the bootleggers and drunks. Old John did not like the 18th Amendment nor the Volsted Act so he asked the Supreme Court to declare them unconstitutional. But the court could not be purchased (as the lower courts had). June 7, the high court decided both acts were constitutional. On that day, John Barleycorn crawled back into his grave and died again. He remained dead until 1933. There was great rejoicing in Rockville when this evil monster was " executed."

## History of Rockville

Smoot's greatest enemy in Utah was James H. Moyle, who had opposed him in 1914. Moyle ironically asked : " To whom is Smoot useful in Utah ?" He was given his answer in the November election returns - a well deserved rebuke.

At the Republican National Convention a careful search was made to find the weakest and most unfit candidate for the presidency. Their objective was rewarded when the delegates chose Warren G. Harding of Ohio. He proved to be the weakest President America ever had. But Rockville did not think so. In the election later, Rockville gave him a 16 majority over the popular Cox.

Zion National Park had been established in 1919. September 15, 1920, the Park was dedicated in a statewide celebration. Many from Rockville attended the ceremonies.

August 30, the Utah Census for 1920 was announced. In ten years, Utah had gained 76,095 in population. Washington County had gained 1,641. The population of the four upper Virgin towns were :

	Count	Gain	loss
Grafton	46	0	60
Rockville	208	19	0
Springdale	204	18	0
Virgin	212	76	0

.....

The political campaign became hotter as November came rushing in. James H. Moyle publicly predicted that Smoot would be sent into oblivion. Moyle, destroyed by his own prejudice, had announced that Smoot would be crushed. Instead, he won by a 26,286 majority. Utah was foolish enough to give Harding a 24,916 majority, a blunder she later repented of. The campaign had been a war between the "angels and devils".

The Republican avalanche completely silenced the Moyles and Kings.

The election returns :

	Cox D	Harding-R	Welling-D	Smoot-R	Taylor-D	Mabey-R	Funk-D	Colton-R	Snow-D	Imbay-R
Grafton	0	19	0	19	1	13	0	19	0	19
Rockville	13	29	11	24	13	39	16	27	15	38
Springdale	9	54	8	54	10	52	9	52	10	52
Virgin	0	19	4	43	3	44	3	44	3	44
	1005	1123	947	1174	991	1154	992	1136	867	1376
Wash. Co.										
Utah	56,639	81,555	56,280	82,566	54,913	81,550	27,974	41,749		



Rockville - A view from south side of valley.

## 1921 - Reapportionment Impossible

In 1921 the war cry in Washington County was reform in representation. The Utah Constitution emphatically demanded that each county shall have at least one representative in the House. In 1921, Daggett County with a population of 400, had one representative as provided by law. In the same session, Washington County with 6,764 population, also had one representative. Was that equality? It was not even democracy. It had 16 times more people than Daggett, therefore, she was entitled to 16 times more representatives than Daggett - that is, if Utah claimed to be democratic. Was discrimination legal in Utah? Greater inequalities existed in Boxelder which had 46 times more people than Daggett, and still had but one representative. In Weber, Utah and Salt Lake counties the same injustice prevailed. Why didn't the moral conscience of the legislators remedy this evil? They had the power to do so. The answer, unfortunately, is the legislators who had the power to make the reform, were too cowardly and dishonorable to make the reforms. These members came from the counties with a small population who feared the large counties would dominate legislation if a fair apportionment were made. The representatives from these so-called "cow" counties refused to let legislature be re-apportioned. These "cow" representatives blocked all efforts right up to 1965, when the reforms were finally achieved.

Governor Bamberger had attempted to correct these evils in 1917 but was blocked by these same rural representatives. The people on the upper Virgin were victims of this inequality and zealously pleaded for the reforms.

Mabey's reappointment bill was doomed to meet the same fate. Mabey pleaded with the legislators to act with prudence and wisdom. He adopted a program of greater economy and efficiency. He pleaded for a policy of "no retreat" and a just execution of the laws.

In his message to the legislature, Mabey warned

## 1921 - Reappointment Impossible

that the mining industry was in financial trouble, mining revenues were falling off, taxes from mining companies were falling off and that unemployment was increasing due to the closing of mines. This condition may continue into 1922. This was ample warning that a depression was on its way.

In late September, David Hirschi, who had served 15 years as Rockville's Bishop, was honorably released. Only one man had served longer than he - Charles N. Smith, 1868-1891. He was replaced by Philetus Jones, age 45, the father of ten children. He had just completed two years as Presiding Elder in Grafton. The Branch organization in Grafton was disorganized and its members were joined to the Rockville Ward. Jones the new Bishop of Rockville was given two Counselors : David M. Terry and Heber Hirschi.

## 1922 - Virgin River Basin

The Virgin river is a tributary of the famous Colorado River whose basin covers 242,000 square miles. The Colorado basin is larger than the combined states of New Mexico, Arizona and Connecticut. The Virgin river basin is a small part of the above area. The towns on the upper Virgin occupy a small part of the Virgin river basin. The area between Zion Park and Virgin City is the subject of this history. Since Rockville is the center of this region any river compacts involving a division of Colorado waters is tied to the Virgin basin. The River Compact of November 24, 1922 when the waters of the Colorado River were divided between the four upper and the three lower basin states, said compact vitally affected the people of Rockville and her three neighboring towns. These agreements apportioned in perpetuity to each basin the "exclusive beneficial use of 7,500,000 acre-feet of

## History of Rockville

water annually." The water flowing down the Virgin was included as part of the upper basin apportionment.

Utah was plagued by strikes in 1922, but Rockville was too far away to be annoyed by these disturbances. Crime and martial law in Carbon County did not disturb the peace on the upper Virgin. Neither did the railroad shopmen's strike affect southern Utah.

The political campaign in 1922 was a dull affair except in the Democratic camp. There, three candidates were fighting for the Senate seat. William H. King finally won the nomination. Both parties adopted platforms which fit the expression : "Tweedledee and tweedledum."

The campaign reached a climax in October when the Democrats held a rally in Rockville. The speakers were Charles B. Petty and James Judd who defended the party's record. The Republicans present didn't like what they heard.

The Republicans also held a home coming rally to hear its ex-bishop, David Hirschi, ask for their support. He was running against another ex-Rockville native, Petty, also a resident of Hurricane. With David, was Robert Woodbury of St. George.

The 46 votes cast by the people of Rockville to David was responsible for his election, the only Republican in the county to win.

The county records show that there were ten tax payers who owned land in Rockville and two in Grafton:

Oliver DeMille, 80 acres; Oliver DeMiller, Jr, 80, Oscar DeMille, 120 acres, John Dennett, 5 acres; David Hirschi, 180 acres, Daniel Hirschi, 80 acres; Leo Hirschi, 5 acres, William Langston, 100 acres, William B. Petty, 80 acres; At Grafton, Alonzo Russell, 80 acres, and Frank Russell, 13 acres.

The 1922 election returns :

	Bamberger-R	King-D	Colton-R	Welling-D	Hirschi-R	Petty-D	Andrus-R	Judd-D
Grafton	36	10	36	9	30	15	23	17
Rockville	34	26	47	12	46	14	39	20
Springdale	52	16	53	14	54	15	49	10
Virgin	11	1	11	1	11	1	11	1
Wash. Co.	936	965	955	893	987	930	838	1063
Utah	58,188	58,749	33,188	27,801				

### 1923 - Harding Visits Rockville

The depression which we noted had begun in 1921 had gradually increased in severity during 1922, reached an alarming level in early 1923. Utah was suffering from a real depression - but no one in Utah would admit it. Citizens on the upper Virgin did not even suspect such a mess. Governor Mabey became alarmed. The loss of taxes from the mining companies threatened Mabey's grand design which he had announced in his 1921 inaugural. In that message he saw prosperity coming that would enable him to cut taxes. Unfortunately, the dwindling tax payments made tax cuts impossible. The depression deepened as tax payments decreased. this was the situation when Mabey delivered his message to the Legislature in



## History of Rockville

January, 1923. The process of deflation was continuing unabated, markets had dried up, mining industries were closing, manufacturing plants were bankrupt - all had contributed to diminished revenues. The loss of taxes forced a deficit. Mabey's promise made in 1920 to reduce taxes exploded into thin air.

The promise was broken in 1922 when he proposed a constitutional amendment to authorize an income tax. But in the November election of 1922, the people rejected it. Such a tax, if approved, could have balanced Utah's budget. The people of Utah wanted the budget balanced, but were unwilling to enact an income tax that could have balanced it. (Utahns made the same blunder in 1909). Failure to enact an income tax caused a financial disaster in the state. The people who were responsible were the voters, they should have been punished physically, but instead, the poor victim of this criminal act, Governor Mabey, was kicked out of office in 1924. Every person in Utah who voted against the income tax should have been sent to prison for life. The people of Rockville were not a party to this crime. Later, when the issue of kicking Mabey out of office, the people of Rockville gave Mabey a vote of confidence, 54 to 12.

June 27, Rockville had an important visitor, his name was Warren G. Harding, President of the United States since 1921. On his arrival, the entire town lined the main street to watch him pass. Never before, nor since, had a President of the United States paid Rockville a visit. Flags were on display. A large sign had been prepared :

" WELCOME PRESIDENT HARDING "

Little did the people realize that within 37 days. Harding would be dead.

(See page 257)



## 1924 - Politics Too Hot

During the political panic of 1924, passions and emotions were completely out of control. Scandals in high places seriously threatened the Republican party. But wise and prudent leadership from President Coolidge was instrumental in calming the feelings aroused by the criminal behavior of the Harding appointees. Coolidge's prompt action in disciplining these political scoundrels was effective in preventing the disintegration of the Republican party. Coolidge inspired self-control and fortitude in meeting the challenge. His influence became so strong that it was considered smart wisdom "to keep cool with Coolidge."

Later in the campaign, the slogan became the war cry among the Republicans. It was the Democrats who couldn't keep cool. At their national convention neither McAdoo nor Al Smith could command a two-thirds majority. The heat became so intense that the delegates lost their equilibrium, many fainted. The balloting became chaotic and snarled. There were 102 ballots taken, still no nominee. (A cool Coolidge was needed). The hottest issues were Teapot Dome, the Mellon tax plan, and a tariff for the rich. To keep the party from falling apart, John W. Davis was nominated. One critic called the platform : " Fifty percent honest."

The Democrats living in Rockville were shocked by the spectacle.

The Republicans held a rally in Rockville, October 22, ex-Bishop Hirschi and LeRoy Cox were the speakers.

All four Virgin towns gave Mabey their loyal support. It was the disloyal Republicans who were responsible for Mabey's defeat. While Mabey was the lone loser among the Republicans, George H. Dern was the lone winner among the Democrats.

The 1924 election returns :

	Coolidge-R	Davis-D	Colton-R	Francis-D	Mabey-R	Dern-D	Mathis-R	Petty-D
Grafton	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0
Rockville	52	12	53	12	54	12	38	29
Springdale	66	15	16	16	66	16	29	55
Virgin	45	14	47	10	46	10	21	38
Wash.Co	1181	865	1229		1223		850	1265
				875		875		
Utah	77,327	47,001	40,883	33,644	72,127	81,308		

The contest for Washington County's representative was between Mathis and Charles B. Petty, a native of Rockville and a grand-son of the famous Albert Petty, founder of Springdale. Even tho Petty was a Democrat, Virgin and Springdale gave him a majority. Not so with Rockville, being a native, he failed to get a majority in the rocky town. Grafton must not have liked the Petty name judging by the votes. Virgin was strong for Petty name. The voters of Utah will never be forgiven for the insult administrated to Mabey.



Philetus Jones

Rockville's Sixth Bishop

1876-1958

Bishop : 1921 to 1933

Born January 13, 1876

Died March 12, 1958

Married December 23, 1898

To

Annie Laura Stout

Born April 14, 1881

Children :

Alvin, b. 1899, d. 1961, m. 1927 to Maurine Chamberlain.

Madge, b. 1901, m. 1922 to John Crawford.

Vernessa, b. 1904, m. 1924 to Harold Cannon.

Mary, b. 1906, m. 1928 to Russell Mahan

Rena, b. 1908, m. 1927 to Benjamin Lawrence.

Ada, b. 1909, m. 1925 to Paul Worthen.

Winnie, b. 1911, m. 1929 to Arthur Van Wagoner.

Philetus, b. 1913, m. 1940 to Elaine Mahoffey.

Nellie, b. 1914, m. 1934 to Fred C. Fagergrin.

Garth, b. 1918, d. 1945, m. 1942 to Dessie Jones.

## 1925 - Swing-Johnson Fallacy

A water war existed between California and Arizona. The waters of the Virgin river were involved in that conflict. Did these waters belong to the upper or lower basin? Since the Virgin emptied into the Colorado below Lee's Ferry, the lower basin laid claim to its waters. But the drainage area of the Virgin basin was in the upper basin states. Consequently, the Virgin Valley became a victim of the controversy between the two basins.

Prior to 1925 six states had ratified the compact. The next problem was the division of the waters within each basin. Each state claimed more than its rightful share. Who could dictate to each state its rightful share? The states were equal in sovereignty. The fate of the Virgin stream was involved. How many acre feet would the farmers on the Virgin be allowed to use? That decision was never made until the final enactment of the Colorado River Compact was completed September 7, 1968. Meanwhile, the Dixie project was doomed to rest in its grave for 43 years.

In January the six ratifying states agreed that a six-state compact was the best temporary solution that could be achieved. Accordingly, the Utah legislature passed the modified compact, five other states joining, March 11. This time California refused to ratify, that killed the six-state compact. California then proceeded to ask Congress to enact a modified version of the old Swing-Johnson bill, December 21. This bill favored California and was detrimental to the upper basin states. Naturally, the upper states rejected it. They believed a higher moral law justified their claims. They believed all precipitation falling on the four upper states was inherently the divine property of those states by divine benevolence from God - why should California be permitted to rob them of their divine blessings?

## 1925 - Swing-Johnson Fallacy

The second Swing-Johnson bill was in reality, a declaration of war on the upper basin. It was a war for the possession of waters that did not belong to California. It was a war to make robbery legal. California should have been physically punished, but how? Governor Dern was in the fight for Utah with both hands and feet.

Back in Rockville the people were partly consoled by the fact that the state was busy building a paved road between Rockville and Zion Park.

## 1926 - Smoot's Last Campaign

Ashby Snow, a prominent Democrat in Dixie was nominated to be Senator from Utah. His opponent was Reed Smoot who was seeking his sixth term in the Senate. The Democrats of Utah hated Smoot with a vengeance that knew no bounds. They conspired to send him into oblivion. Four times they had failed, but now (1926), they resolved to crush him or die in the attempt. The Democrats discovered they had a problem. Who in the Democratic party was big enough to successfully defeat Smoot? They agreed it would take a monster to crush him. Did the Democrats have such a man? They believed they had. Their faith was not enough. They picked on a very weak man - Ashby Snow of St. George. Snow was nominated by acclamation. Could he be elected that easy? All Democrats believed he would win by a landslide. Snow was equally confident. He knew he had the backing of his own county - Washington. He was sure of winning a majority in all the Dixie towns, but would he?

The defeat of Smoot was not the greatest calamity that could befall Utah in 1926. The Colorado river controversy was looking more and more ominous. California, by pressing Congress to pass the new Swing-Johnson bill,

## History of Rockville

was threatening to rob the upper basin states of their rights to the waters of the Colorado River. Rockville too, was vitally interested in those rights.

The dead-lock between California and Arizona continued into 1926. The Boulder Dam could not be constructed until the two states reached an agreement. A collision was inevitable. The water rights of the upper states were also in jeopardy as long as the issue was unresolved.

California's claims on the waters of the Colorado were illegal. They believed they had prior rights to the water. They continued to refuse to answer the question : " Does the rain and snow that falls on the upper states belong to California ? The Californians dodged that question, the admission would have convicted them.

If Congress had forced the enactment of the Swing-Johnson bill, then the upper states could have repudiated the six-state compact. That would have effectively blocked the construction of the Boulder Dam, which was exactly what Utah planned to do later.

Returning to the Utah scene, the Democrats were campaigning to send Smoot into oblivion, but at the November election, the electorate had other plans. Smoot was re-elected by a 34,202 majority. That was not all. The Republicans swept the platter clean. The 1927 Legislature would have but one Democrat in the Senate and 4 in the House.

It was a great disappointment to Ashby Snow. In his home county, Smoot won by a 679 majority. In two counties Snow had a majority, namely, Carbon and Grand.

In Rockville, the native son, Petty, lost by a 32 minority, but he did win in Grafton by a healthy majority,

A culinary water system was completed during the year. For 64 years, the people had been using river water for drinking which lacked the necessary iodine. The result, many people had suffered from goiter.

The election returns :

	Smoot-R	Snow-D	Colton-R	Bergeson-D	Marsden-R	Carry-D	Imbey-R	Petty-D
Grafton	10	2	6	6	4	8	3	9
Rockville	53	9	51	11	49	13	32	30
Springdale	80	5	75	9	65	18	49	36
Virgin	51	10	48	10	46	12	42	19
Wash. Co.	1511	832	1404	1271	1049	1180		
			914		1148			
Utah	88,101	53,809	44,007	27,198	3,401	2,649		

## 1927 - California Robbers

Rockville was an innocent victim of California's intriguing schemes to rob Utah of her water rights on the Virgin. California was threatening to appropriate all the water flowing down the Virgin and Colorado rivers. California refused to ratify the six-state compact until Congress had passed the Swing-Johnson bill. For good reasons, Arizona had refused to ratify the 1922 pact unless California first agreed to apportion the waters assigned to the lower basin. Utah on its part, was planning to repudiate the six-state pact to prevent Congress from passing the Swing-Johnson bill. January 18, Utah did just that - killing it. This action gave the

## History of Rockville

stubborn Californians a well deserved rebuke. While Utah's repudiation of the six-state compact did not fatally kill the Swing-Johnson bill, it created strong pressure on Congress to provide a more equitable apportionment of the waters of the Colorado River.

Don B. Colton had the answer :

" The Utah Legislature rescinded its ratification of the six-state compact because in no other way could Utah absolutely protect its interests - Utah had been tricked into ratifying that compact by promises that have not been fulfilled."

The repudiation had placed Utah in a stronger position to seek reforms in a new and revised Johnson bill. Congress adjourned March 4, thus killing the bill.

The people of Rockville gave a sigh of relief when Congress adjourned. The waters of the Virgin were temporarily made safe from the California robbers.

Since the Johnson bill was dead, Governor Dern spent the next four months interviewing other basin leaders which resulted in a Denver Conference, August 22. Dern warned the leaders that "God has made us neighbors, let justice make us friends."

All Arizona wanted was a fair share of the water. California also wanted her share and more too. That caused a new deadlock. California demanded a lion's share of the water. California had no conception of the word "fair". She thought the word meant all the water. The hogish attitude of California was the reason the Denver Conference failed.

## 1928 - Damn Boulder Dam

California's long fight to cheat the six states of their water is the blackest page in American history. The crisis of 1927 having been resolved, the California imposters retreated in disgrace. With the arrival of 1928, the



1928 - Damn Boulder Dam

Swings and Johnsons concocted another conspiracy to cheat the upper states of their state sovereignty.

The objective in 1928 (as in 1922) was who owned the rain and snow that fell on the upper basin mountains ? The wise answer, as always, was the soil that received the moisture should be entitled to that moisture. The government that has jurisdiction over said soil has authority to distribute this moisture to its own citizens. Since the states are equal in sovereignty, no state can confiscate the natural (water) resources from a neighboring state. Such an act would be criminal.

All the water in the Colorado River which made its exit from Utah and flowed into Arizona, including the Virgin River, belonged to the four upper basin states. This stream of water had originally fallen as rain or snow on the soil of the four upper basin states and therefore legally and morally belonged to these states. That these waters "escaped" from the upper basin is ignored. Titles to these waters was never forfeited. The four upper states were legally and morally entitled to consume every gallon of water before this water left Utah soil. The upper states had a legal right to prevent this water from flowing into Arizona if that were physically possible. But this inability was no licence for using the escaping water. The lower states, like beggars, were allowed to use that water as long as the upper states permitted that water to escape. The law permitted them to stop that water from escaping at will.

But contrary to law and the moral code, the people of California, illegally, laid claim to that escaping water to the tune of 4,400,000 acre-feet annually. Did they morally purchase that water from the upper basin states ? The water was escaping so California confiscated it. An example from life : A man is walking along the street, and unknowingly drops a \$100.00 bill. A second man sees the money and picks it up. Who does the money belong to ? The typical Californian would answer : The second should

## History of Rockville

have the money. That was California's moral code in the Colorado river controversy. This illegal assumption that escaping waters could be legally confiscated by strong arm tactics was the crime of the century. The pending revamped Swing-Johnson measure proposal threatened the sovereignty of the upper basin states.

January 11, a modified version of the Johnson bill was introduced into the House. The new bill eliminated some of the bad features of the old bill but still denied to the upper states the sovereignty over the waters which had fallen as rain or snow.

Utah's Leatherwood said the bill was : "dishonest, dangerous, unsound and unnecessary."

Governor Dern insisted that the Colorado river inside Utah boundaries is state property which the federal government has not the power to take away. In spite of these gospel truths, the "dam" bill was passed, 219 to 139, May 25. Congress then adjourned and did not meet again till December 1.

In December, the Senate passed the dam Boulder act, 48 to 29, giving California 4,400,000 acre feet annually. If the truth were known, she was not entitled to one drop of water. This give-away was the greatest robbery in American history. By the passage of this act, Congress had unconstitutionally assumed powers it did not have. The constitution does not give Congress the power to divide the waters of any river to any of the states. This "dangerous" action made Uncle Sam a socialist. It was the triumph of the principles of Karl Marx and his doctrine of government ownership and operation of public utilities. It was America's first adventure into socialism.

The fight for state sovereignty was a lost cause. The Boulder bill was based on the theory that might, and not justice, makes right. Arizona had been cheated out of 300,000 acre-feet annually. Long live the California robbers! May God Dam the Boulder Dam.

After 66 years, Rockville became modernized by the installation of electric lights.

	Hoover-R	Smith-D	Bamberger-R	King-D	Wattis-R	Dern-D	Colton-R	Patterson-D	Hirschi-R	Frei-D
Grafton	11	1	3	9	5	7	11	1	12	0
Rockville	64	11	42	34	47	28	52	10	69	7
Springdale	96	30	76	50	62	61	100	23	107	19
Virgin	66	3	64	10	65	10	66	8	70	5
Wash.Co.	1670	857	1131	1261	1198	1237	1723	774	1445	1075
Utah	94,613	80,880	77,073	97,436	72,306	102,953	50,214	31,889		

Utah went Republican nationally except for King and Dern who were re-elected. The Democrats made strong gains in the Legislature. Ex-Bishop, David Hirschi won his old seat in the House after a two year absence.

### 1929 - Arizona Rejects Boulder

The passage of the Swing-Johnson bill, December 21, 1928 put Utah on the spot. To complicate the situation still more, California ratified the act, January 10, thus leaving only Arizona and Utah out side the six-state compact. No one expected Arizona to ratify so all eyes were turned on Utah. Governor Dern advised the legislature to wait and see what Arizona's attitude toward joining the six state compact.

## History of Rockville

At the Santa Fe Conference, February 14-19, Arizona made unreasonable demands which the other members could not accept, result, the conference broke up. This failure prompted the Utah House to ratify the six-state compact, 46 to 7. Nine days later, the Senate approved, March 6. This action made the Boulder bill a reality.

These acts angered the Arizona Legislature to a white heat. She screamed to high heaven that the Boulder bill was unconstitutional since it was an invasion of state rights and threatened to test it in the courts. A lot of people in Utah agreed with Arizona, it did deny a state's sovereignty.

June 25, feelings were ruffled when President Hoover issued a proclamation declaring the act in effect.

While all these actions were being knocked around, the people of Rockville were far more peaceful. They spent the year cleaning up the town, painting, decorating the church, paving the side-walks and making numerous improvements.

December 8, the St. George Stake was divided. The southern portion was organized as the St. George Stake. A new stake was organized in the north-east mountain country, named the Zion Park Stake with head-quarters at Hurricane. It included seven wards and two branches. The upper Virgin towns were a vital part of this new stake.

The WallStreet Market crash was not even heard in far off Rockville.

## 1930 - The Virgin in Jeopardy

The Swing-Johnson act of 1928 had settled the dispute between the upper and lower basins. The construction of the Boulder Dam could not be started until a final agreement was signed between California and Arizona. The

## 1930 - The Virgin in Jeopardy

Virgin River was tied to that settlement. Several conferences attempted to settle the feud, but all failed. Strong pressure was exerted on the two states to amicably adjust their differences so the dam could be built. Finally a frustrated Arizona issued an ultimatum demanding that all rivers in Arizona be exempted in the division of the waters of the Colorado. This demand complicated all future negotiations. Secretary Wilbur angered the upper states by proceeding to draw up contracts for the sale of power which denied the rights of Utah to its share of Boulder dam power and revenue as guaranteed to Utah by the original compact of 1922. Governor Dern called the power sale "unjust." Utah's rights were further put in jeopardy when President Hoover (May 1) asked Congress to appropriate ten million dollars to start construction of the Boulder Dam. Arizona promptly filed a suit in court demanding that construction be stopped. Governor Dern interpreted the construction as benefitting California only and seriously injuring the industrial development of the upper states.

Originally it was provided by the treaty of 1922 that the states would ratify the treaty on condition that a fair revenue would be charged for power and water to build up a fund to make possible future reclamation projects in the upper basin. That phase of the contract, Congress was morally obligated to honor, but cowardly ignored in order to favor California. The upper states demanded that these sacred promises be kept. Congress criminally reneged on these sacred promises, thus committed an unpardonable offense against the upper basin. The area affected by this wrong doing was the Virgin basin whose stream of water was to be usurped by the California power consumers (robbers). In October, Arizona made good its threat by bringing suit against the building of the dam on grounds the act was unconstitutional. The case rested there as the year ended.

During the year Short Creek and Cane Beds were made Branches of the Rockville ward.

December 3, President Hoover announced in his annual message that the nation was in a deep depression.

# History of Rockville

The 1930 census gave Utah a population of 507,847, a gain of 58,451 over 1920. Washington County had 7,420, a gain of 656 in ten years.

Town		Gain or loss
Grafton	23	-23
Rockville	251	+43
Springdale	351	+ 147
Virgin	202	- 10

.....

## 1930 Election returns :

	Colton-R	Ririe-D	Jeffer.R	Tolton-D	Hirschi-R	Lund-D
Grafton	13	3	8	6	15	0
Rockville	52	23	49	27	74	3
Springdale	76	14	62	30	96	7
Virgin	67	10	72	7	70	10
Wash. Co	1547	948	1155		1350	1125
				1328		
Utah						

45,975

29,210

.....

All four towns remained royal to the Republican party. This was the last time the census was taken in Grafton.

A church census in Rockville listed 361 (December 31 1930). The ward records listed 8 high priests, 8 se-  
 enties, 28 elders, 19 priests, 23 teachers and 23 deacons.

The discrepancy between the church census and the U.S. census cannot be explained.

## 1931 - A New Church Building

Hoover had dropped a bomb on the American people when he claimed the nation had fallen into a deep depression. His words shocked the whole country. The speech was received in Utah with skepticism. It was an invitation to frustration. Had the people of Utah been guilty of excessive speculation? Were the farmers of Utah guilty of "over production." ? The people on the upper Virgin never speculated in stocks and bonds, neither did the farmers of Rockville over-produce on their farms. They didn't even know a depression had struck the eastern states.

The citizens in Rockville were too busy building a new ward church to bother about depressions in far off places. The construction of the meeting house was no small adventure. It cost \$9,000. It had a seating capacity of 168. It included four class rooms, a kitchen and a play room for children. It was completed in May, 1932.

The Utah Legislature was in session during those early months and passed an income tax which exempted persons making less than \$1,000 annually. Very few people in Rockville were affected by this tax. All persons were self-employed except the Post Master. It would be difficult to find a farmer on the upper Virgin whose yearly income was in excess of \$1,000.

The "Noble Experiment" had been in force 12 years. Public opinion in Rockville favored prohibition. Just one person in six belonged to the noisy minority who insisted that enforcement was a failure. The loyal citizens of Rockville, who were in a strong majority, believed that prohibition was a howling success. February 25, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a decision affirming the constitutionality of the 18th Amendment. That decision silenced the agitators for a season. None from that noisy minority lived in Rockville. They believed in upholding and sustaining the law.

Six states had ratified the Colorado River compact



## History of Rockville

except Arizona. That state felt she had been cheated, so on October 30, 1930 she sued for relief. She asked the high court to find the Swing-Johnson act unconstitutional. Arizona asked the court to restrain the government from building the dam. The other six states (Utah included) submitted arguments demanding that the court dismiss Arizona's suit. Arizona had the audacity to claim all the water in the Colorado River (including the Virgin) that entered Arizona - claiming it was the physical property of that state. This absurdity was insanity in its worst forms. She was severely rebuked for these assumptions.

May 18 the high court handed down a decision upholding the constitutionality of the Swing-Johnson act and ordered the continued construction of the Boulder Dam. That saved the Virgin River from being gobbled up by the Arizona rebels.

During the late months of 1931, signs of the depression began to appear in Utah. Hoover warned that America was suffering more from "frozen confidence than from frozen securities." Smoot predicted that prosperity was coming. His failure to see the future was responsible for his downfall a year later. Smoot's prophecy that prosperity was just around the corner applied only to the towns on the upper Virgin. The depression in that valley until well into 1933.

## 1932 - Rockville Vs. Roosevelt

The election returns of 1932 revealed the fact that a great political revolution had taken place during the year. This disturbance could not be detected during the campaign. This writer was completely deceived by the evidence which pointed to the certainty that the Republicans would win by a landslide. Thousands of political writers were also deceived by the signs of the times which indicated a Republican avalanche. Never were political



1932 - Rockville Vs Roosevelt

forecastors more wrong. The people of Rockville were immune to the propaganda directed at the Republicans for allegedly causing unemployment and deflated prices. The people on the Virgin chose to remain loyal to their political traditions. The three principal candidates, Hoover, Smoot and Colton were loyally supported in the election. In spite of the fact that their neighbors in Washington county and the state of Utah, lost the faith, and ran after false gods, Rockville, Springdale and Virgin remained true to the three candidates with solid majorities. Neither did they forsake their moral principles by bowing to Demon Rum. The Digest poll for April 30 showed that 10,281 Utahns favored the return of old John Barleycorn, while only 4,650 wanted him kicked out of Utah. Did any of these ten thousand Demon Rum worshipers live on the upper Virgin ?

The misery began when silver prices came tumbling down and copper prices fell to five cents a pound. That started the avalanche. First, unemployment increased followed naturally by weakness in purchasing power. Deficits, both private and public, increased. By the end of January, Utah awoke to the realization that a first class depression was in progress. But Rockville and her neighbors were unaware of these distractions since her citizens were mostly self-employed- except the three postmasters and school teachers.

The Digest poll shocked Utahns. It revealed that public morals were degenerating. Statutes against the saloon were increasing the consumption of liquor, not curtailing it. Prohibition had unwisely attempted to change man's physical habits and appetits. These aims did not involve social or moral laws. The act of drinking liquor did not involve the rights of others. The new science now teaches that habits and appetits are controlled by the nervous system and are not affected by moral and spiritual codes. These appetits are automatically stimulated by physical need for satisfaction. They are not

## History of Rockville

controlled by man made laws. No statute made by man can influence these reactions. Therefore, all laws passed by legislatures or Congresses can not change the habits and appetits of the physical body. As well try to change the digestive system of the body by legislation. For these reasons, Utahns had begun to believe the 18th Amendment had attempted to do the impossible. If these conclusions were true, what should Utah do about prohibition? Obviously, the problem would not evoparate. Some asked: "Should we repeal the liquor law?" "Never", shouted the ardent prohibitionist.

The depression had arrived in Utah, but not on the upper Virgin. None of the signs of a depression were visable in Dixie. Prosperity was still strong in Rockville. Farm produce prices may have affected the price of eggs, wheat and fruit on the Rockville market but only slightly. Elsewhere, in Dixie, the depression had become the main campaign issue.

The hottest campaign issue was prohibition. The Legislature had previously provided that the people vote for or against the 18th Amendment and in a second referendum, to repeal or not repeal prohibition. The decision made by the four towns is here given:

	18th Amendment		To repeal	
	For	Against	For	Against
Grafton	1	8	2	8
Rockville	12	75	16	71
Springdale	21	106	17	113
Virgin	36	18	39	22
Wash. Co.	707	1577	684	1703
.....				

The people were still strong prohibitionists.

1932 Election Returns :

	Hoover-R	Roosevelt-D	Smoot-R	Thomas-D	Seegmiller-R	Blood-D	Colton-R	Murdock-D	Day-R	Bentley-D	Hirschi-R	Miller-D
Grafton	3	9	3	9	1	11	4	8	3	10		
Rockville	66	49	75	39	48	72	74	40	63	51	No	record
Springdale	98	45	100	43	93	51	103	40	87	56		
Virgin	44	38	47	38	36	48	50	34	48	39		
Wash. Co.	1370	1640	1454	1562	1552	1443	1585	1425	1082	1926	1484	1513
Utah ....	84,573	116,750	86,066	116,909	85,913	116,031	44,827	47,774				

.....

Utah Republicans went all out for Hoover, Smoot and Colton but their pressure was not enough. Grafton voters knew who the winners would be. Rockville and Springdale gave the Republicans healthy majorities. These Virgin towns gave Hirschi full support while the rest of the county gave Miller a majority. Rockville, Springdale and Virgin were truly anti-Roosevelt. The other towns bowed to the liquor candidates.

November 19, a man named Douglas Davis was killed by Jennie Adams in self-defense, so the jury ruled.

December 26, the old meeting house was burned down. Rockville had recently completed building a new building.

## 1933 - Death of Prohibition

The residents of Rockville were fully converted to prohibition. Naturally, there were a few exceptions. A majority believed that alcoholic beverages were harmful to the body, and, until 1919, believed the only cure for the alcoholic was physical punishment in prison. That was the popular doctrine held in Utah, but after 13 years of enforcement, their experiences taught them they had been wrong. The "Noble Experiment" had suffered 13 years before it reached the truth, then Mr. Public struck the fatal blow at the 18th Amendment.

Early in January, Governor Blood, agreed with Hoover, and announced that Utah had fallen into a deep depression. More alarming, he warned that the state had reached the bottom. Accordingly, he declared war on the economic disease. Unemployment, he said, was shocking. There was a run on the banks, so on March 2, as Roosevelt did later, he declared a "bank holiday". That kept the banks solvent. This order did not affect the people on the upper Virgin since there were no banks nearer than St. George.

Two days later the great revolution began. President Roosevelt ascended the "throne" in the White House and started a "reign of terror". He first declared a national bank holiday, the gold standard was abandoned, a tariff on sugar was lifted, repeal of 18th Amendment proposed, this action sparked a new war between the wets and dries. None of these changes affected life in Rockville except the new whisky war.

Roosevelt's resurrection of the prohibition controversy inspired the liquor interests in Utah to begin a new drive against prohibition. The regular session had defeated a proposal to submit prohibition to the people for a vote. Within two months, the sentiment in Utah had changed. In June, Governor Blood called a special session to meet July 10 to again consider prohibition repeal. This time the Legislature approved a plan to submit to the people the question of repeal or not to repeal. The special session

# 1933 - Death of Prohibition

passed the resolution, July 26. The issue was now up to the people. Did they want to be wet or dry ?

The verdict :

For Repeal

Against Repeal

Grafton	1	8
Rockville	12	75
Springdale	21	106
Virgin	36	18
Wash. Co.	707	1586
Utah	99,943	62,437

Only the people in Virgin spoiled the record for the prohibitionists. The county upheld the dry cause, but the people of Utah were disgracefully wet. The righteous wept.

On the same day, November 7, the people of Utah were asked to approve or disapprove the new 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In that referendum the upper Virgin towns (except Virgin) disapproved the 21st Amendment while the whole state went against the advise of the church leaders. The Referendum :

	For 21st Am.	Against 21st Am.
Grafton	2	8
Rockville	16	71
Springdale	17	113
Virgin	38	22
Wash, Co.	714	1711
Utah	101,591	76,178

The first three towns were ultra dry while Virgin, as usual went wet. These figures are almost identical to the referendum , taken in November, 1932. No change in sentiment during the first year.

September 28,, Bishop Philetus Jones was released and David Waldon Ballard was sustained in his place. Henry E. Covington and Edwin D. DeMille were chosen Counselors.

## History of Rockville

John F. Dennett, age 80, one of Rockville's great pioneers, died February 5.

### 1934 - A Great Drouth

The arrival of 1934 was expected to usher in an era of recovery and prosperity. That dream was rudely blasted. In March a nagging drouth set in which continued till the end of October. The drouth was more severe in southern Utah than in the north. Washington County was hit head-on by the disaster. Utah's economy was severely damaged forcing the state to apply for federal unemployment relief. Large sums of money was granted to meet the emergency. In June, Utah received \$1,850,000 for drouth relief. Instead of prosperity blessing the people, as had been hoped, an economic sickness hit the country. More people went on the dole. All hope of recovery vanished. That dream of a prosperous paradise was blighted.

The economic sickness was more disastrous in Dixie than in the north due to the greater drouth. The Virgin river rested from its annual floods and dried up. Irrigation in the Virgin Valley was postponed indefinitely. The empty canals played havoc with the thirsty gardens and fruit trees. Dry farming was impossible. The annual precipitation for the state was 11.44. In Washington County it was 5.39. It was Utah's hottest year, the average mean temperature was 55.2; in Washington County it was 62.7.

Sugar and silver were in controversy between Utah and Congress but these problems did not affect Dixie who had its own difficulties. The Virgin towns were plagued by defective liquor enforcement evils. The "Noble Experiment" had gone with the wind. After repeal, the people had unconsciously invited John Barleycorn into accepted

1934 - A Great Drouth

society where he created a whisky paradise. He organized a new army of bootleggers, who openly sold whisky on the streets of mining towns. Whisky became king. From January to December, chaos reigned supreme. Utah had fallen into a pot of whisky. The public wanted to know why prohibition had failed so miserably? One authority had the answer :

" Enforcement from the beginning was generally inefficient, undignified, very costly, in some cases violent, in others, corrupt."

These insinuations did not apply on the upper Virgin. There, the few amateur bootleggers were intimidated by public opinion.

The Colorado River controversy hit closer to home. June 30 a conference was held in Salt Lake City whose objective was the allocation of the 7,500,000 acre feet of water apportioned to the four upper states by the treaty of 1922. The farmers in the Virgin Valley were acutely affected by any division of these waters. Arizona had threatened to take more than her share of the water. At that conference the upper states warned her to desist until she had ratified the six-state compact. The conference failed to resolve the allocation problem.

Utah finally resolved the liquor problem. A study committee recommended that a liquor control commission be appointed with authority to sell liquor in bottles in state operated stores and state operated agencies. These stores to be carefully regulated by the commission.

In Rockville, the two-room rock school house was completed, October 31.

The November election proved that the people of Rockville were not brain washed by the New Dealers. Rockville and Virgin remained true to all the Republican candidates. Springdale gave Murdock a majority, otherwise, she was partial to the Republicans.

It was another Democratic year but not in Rockville. In the Legislature, the Democrats gained 6 more seats in the House and 5 in the Senate.

The election results :

# History of Rockville

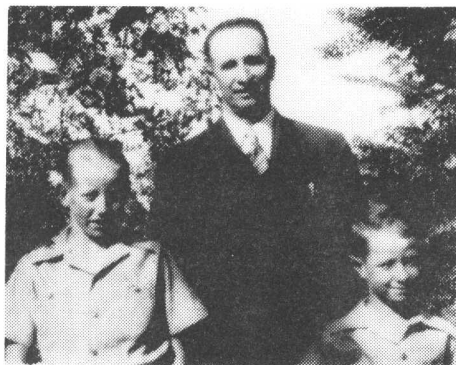
	King-D	Colton-R	Murdock-D	Woolley-R	Miles-D	Bowler-R
.....						
Rockville	26	67	39	49	22	67
Springdale	35	109	74	69	60	83
Virgin	20	43	19	42	11	49
Wash. Co.	1396	1412	1723	1065	1312	1597
Utah	95,931	82,154	55,800	29,878		
.....						

The Counselors who served under Bishop Ballard  
were :

First Counselors : Henry E. Covington, 1933-1935.  
Heber Hirschi, 1935-1944.

Second C. : Edwin D. DeMille, 1933-1935  
Leonard Dalton, 1935-1939  
Grant Langston, 1939-1941  
Alma Hirschi 1941-1944.





Rockville's Seventh Bishop  
1894-1958

Born May 22, 1894, died June 30, 1959.

Married December 12, 1922 to Alice Harmon

Alice was born April 18, 1898, a daughter of Melvin.

Children :

Erald L., b. May 18, 1931, m. 1949 to Jeanine Ballard.  
Harkins

Dean H., b March 18, 1936, m. 1959 to Karen

.....

Served as Bishop from September 28, 1933 to May  
16, 1944.

## 1935 - Short Creek Polygamists

The depression had hit the bottom of the barrel in 1934. The economic plague could not go deeper, so it started to move up in 1935. Unemployment improved slightly. Nearly all the metal mines in the state were closed down during the first quarter. In April the work relief act was passed by Congress. \$1,135,317 was channeled directly to Utah. A small portion of this relief reached the upper Virgin. Most of the Virgin Valley citizens were self-employed.

The drouth was not so severe in 1935. The average mean temperature was 4 degrees cooler in 1935 than 1934. The rain fall was less than in 1934 (10.34) so the drouth was still a menace.

The Republicans of Rockville celebrated when the Blue Eagle was killed by the Supreme Court. Many shouted : " Thank God for the Supreme Court."

Congress was highly applauded for enacting the famous Social Security Act, August 14. Many elderly citizens in the Virgin Valley were soon to be benefitted by a well deserved pension.

May 11, Rockville's newly built ward chapel was dedicated by Reed Smoot, a name Rockville's Republicans had voted for in four elections.

Short Creek, a village on the Utah-Arizona state line, 30 miles south of Rockville, was a branch of Rockville. At least four families at the Creek were ex-members of the ward. Since Short Creek was a branch of Rockville, these members were under the administration of the Rockville Bishopric.

For many years it was known that many church members in Short Creek were teaching and practicing polygamy. These simple minded people believed that Wilford Woodruff had led the church into hell by issuing the Manifesto of 1890. Polygamy, they alleged, was revealed to Joseph Smith by God Himself to remain on earth for ever, therefore, they alleged, Woodruff was a false leader. The

### 1935 - Short Creek Polygamists

Stake Presidency had labored with these people for years trying to convince them of their errors. Finally, in 1935, the Stake Presidency abandoned the effort and ordered them excommunicated, September 7. This action put Short Creek on the map. Its notoriety spread over the entire nation like the arrival of a great epidemic. The village's reputation became so repugnant, that the town's inhabitants in dismay, changed the town's name to "Colorado City".

The names of those excommunicated were :

Isaac W. Carling, Henry E. Covington ( a Counselor to Bishop D. W. Ballard), and wife, LeRoy S. Johnson and wife, Leonard Black and wife, Warren J. Black and wife, Willard W. Black and wife, Charles C. Cox and wife (the writer's cousin), Karl T. Olds and wife, Elva E. W. Carling, Elizabeth J. Colvin, Melvin E. Johnson and wife, Bruce Johnson and Sylvia Allred.

It should be noted that Charles C. Cox was not excommunicated for practicing polygamy but only for teaching the doctrine. There may have been others in the same category.

It is incomprehensible that a rational human could accept such absurdities.

The Stake authorities under the direction of President Claude Hirschi (an ex-resident of Rockville) were responsible for ordering the excommunication of the 21 persons listed above.

Meanwhile, encouraging signs of recovery were evident in November. The number on relief rolls had been reduced by 8,000. These relief clients had been given jobs by the relief agency and had made satisfactory adjustments.

### 1936 - Money Wins Elections

Between the drouth and the depression, Utah had

## History of Rockville

begun to show improvement as 1936 came roaring in. The state received six more inches of rain (16.29 ) and the average temperature moved up from 51.8 to 52.1.

January 6, the farmers on the Virgin were baffled by the Supreme Court's decision declaring the Agricultural Adjustment Act unconstitutional. This legislation was an honest attempt to aid the farmers to fight the depression. The court imputed the act as an "invasion of State's rights." The A.A.A., it charged, was too coercive and "took from one class to gratify other groups." Were these evil deeds being committed in Washington County ? If so, who in Dixie were cheating whom ?

Nationally, Utah had acquired the reputation as a " Welfare State." The figures proved it. April 1, there were 13,592 persons on relief in Utah, which was higher than the national level. To sustain this army of relievers, the U.P.A. was spending \$7,900,110 yearly to keep these workers from voting the Republican ticket. No welfare client would dare vote against his benefactor. The number of welfare clients in Washington County is not known, but judging from the election returns, the number was considerable. All Democratic national, state and county candidates in Washington County received large majorities in the November election. This epidemic of wild voting did not contaminate the voters on the upper Virgin. These three towns remained true to the Republican cause, with two exceptions, namely, Rockville and Springdale who gave Murdock a majority (for personal reasons). We are forced to the conclusion that there were few welfare clients living on the upper Virgin. Indeed, this election proved that the way to win elections was to feed and clothe the idle workers who are unemployed.

It was a close call for Rockville in the presidential race, Landon only received a one vote majority. With the exception of Murdock, Rockville gave the other Republican candidates, healthy majorities.

# 1936 - Money Wins Elections

Claude Hirschi, a Rockville native (son of David), won big in the three Virgin towns, but lost in the district.

The election results :

	Roosevelt-D	Landon-R	Murdock-D	Dunn-R	Blood-D	Dillman-R	Snow-D	Hirschi-R	Mathis-D	Bowler-R
Rockville	60	61	75	48	25	95	28	94	48	72
Springdale	62	72	85	49	43	85	32	101	50	82
virgin	32	41	32	41	18	53	9	65	19	55
Wash. Co.	2003	1138	2144	998	1618	1466	1705	1432	1701	1422
Utah .....	150,002	64,555	68,877	30,415	109,656	60,118				

## 1937 - W.P.A. At Rockville

Rockville's one mile street was well paved but its curb and gutter needed trimming to match the beautiful trees that lined the avenue. February 23, a team of WPA workers began the task of laying curb and

## History of Rockville

gutter to help beautify the village. The task required several months to complete. When the work was finished the town was all dressed up for a celebration. It is not known how many local men were involved in the project.

A prohibition scare suddenly popped up when President Heber J. Grant appealed for a crusade to return Utah to the good old prohibition days. He declared that drinking is ten times greater than it was under prohibition. "Liquor", he said, "is a menace to the economic, moral and physical welfare of the people." Most of the people in Rockville could agree with that. A lot of "Jack Mormons" disagreed. Obviously, the liquor act of 1937 was too weak to solve the enforcement needs of the state. President Grant still held to the old doctrine that physical punishment was the most effective cure against the alcoholic.

## 1938 - Rockville Vs. New Deal

Late in 1937, a recession set in knocking Utah's economy off balance and jolted her recovery efforts. The drouth continued to be obnoxious. The annual mean temperature was 51.9 while the yearly precipitation was 13.05, two points above the 1933-35 average.

The political war was hotter than the temperature. The fighting Republicans were angry at the New Dealers. They charged they were attempting to set up a class society that would perpetuate itself in power. They warned that the morale of the country was being destroyed by fascism.

Candidate, Elbert D. Thomas met this challenge by waging a war on the Republicans. This new dealer was seeking re-election to the Senate. He issued a challenge boasting that he had supported all WPA funds for Utah, he warned that no welfare recipient in Utah would dare oppose him. He announced that Utah belonged to him. Indeed, he personified the new deal in all its aspects. His

# 1938 - Rockville Vs New Deal

record in Congress, he boasted, entitled him to all the votes of Utah's welfare clients. Who could question that right ?

The Republican war cry in 1938, was Thomas, the Roosevelt stooge. The issue then, was Thomas. He must be defeated. The people of Rockville accepted that challenge. The three towns on the Virgin gave Thomas and Roosevelt the whipping of their lives :

	Thomas-D	Harris-R	Murdock-D	Young-R	Mattis-D	Miller-R
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rockville	15	85	39	59	25	73
Springdale	32	89	58	64	38	84
Virgin	24	48	27	45	22	49
Wash. Co.	1545	1556	1900	1192	1418	1691
Utah .....	102,353	81,071	52,927	35,790		

.....

The three virgin towns were not responsible for the Utah vote. They met Thomas's challenge head-on, and won in their own communities. The rest of the county had been purchased by the WPA masters, hence the sell out. The people on the Virgin knew Thomas for what he really was, Roosevelt's stooge and "yes" man. They knew he was

## History of Rockville

approved by the Communist party. They hated rubber stamps.

Rockville repented of its 1936 decision when she gave Murdock a majority. In 1938, Rockville repudiated its 1936 vote and gave Young a majority.

One of the worst floods the Virgin ever saw was in March. A great deal of damage was done.

December 25, Rockville mourned the loss of its ex-Bishop, David Hirschi.

## 1939 - A Great World War

Nine years of depression was not enough for Rockville so another drouth came sneaking in to plague the people. The ten months between February and November only 7.85 inches of rain fell in Dixie. Between depressions and drouths the Virgin valley was punished enough without being plagued by another war.

One happy note, 1939 saw the end of the Spanish civil war. One cruel dictatorship was replaced by another barbarian dictatorship. The Spanish war proved to be contagious. Suddenly, all Europe exploded. In July, Hitler swallowed up Austria and Czechoslovakia. These acts of war alarmed America who promptly repealed its neutrality acts. September 1, Germany invaded Poland. Next, London and Paris were involved. Armageddon had arrived. How could this horrible war affect the peace loving citizens living on the Virgin? War creates a need for supplies and munitions. These necessities require skilled labor. This means full employment which comes naturally. The war did just that. With employment solved, Utah returned to normal. Farm prices on the Virgin went up thus aiding the Rockville farmers to improve their living conditions.

The Mormon leaders saw the war coming and wept.



## 1939 - A Great World War

J. R. Clark issued a warning : " Racial hatreds, mutual distrust, and lust for power are trying to involve humanity in a general conflict."

War or no war, life on the Virgin went merrily on. Eventually, the war would involve nearly all the young men in Rockville.

The Utah Liquor Commission made its first report, June 30. The first two years in Washington County, revealed that 31 persons had been arrested for violating the Prohibition act of 1935. The report, broken down for towns, was :

Hurricane, 13, Leeds, 1; La Verkin, 3; Santa Clair, 7; St George, 3; and Washington, 4. At the C.C.C camp, there were 8 arrests. During the first two years not one person living on the upper Virgin was arrested. It was very embarrassing to report that in 1940, one person in Rockville was arrested. That spoiled its record.

## 1940 - Prosperity Returns

Ten years of depression was enough punishment for the Virgin valley settlers. The new year offered relief from the agony of a sick economy. The new deal was not reponsible for the economic recovery, on the contrary, the new dealers had retarded the recovery. After the neutrality acts had been repealed, exports increased rapidly. Factories and industrial activities moved into high gear. Greater pay rolls built stronger purchasing power of employees. Another aid to economic revival was the end of the drouth. Rainfall returned to normal with 14 inches. This life saving cure revived agriculture to its former glory. These blessings gave the Virgin farmer the opportunity to compete in the struggle for existence.

The scandles of the 1936 and 1938 were repeated in the 1940 election. Congress appropriated large sums of

# History of Rockville

money on WPA projects in Washington County to keep the relief clients happy and employed. The conspiracy paid off. Naturally, the people of Rockville opposed a third term as a matter of principle. Springdale was the only town on the Virgin to give Murdock a majority. All the rest gave the Republicans a strong boost.

## 1940 Election Returns :

	Roosevelt-D	Willikie-R	Murdock-D	Farnsworth-R	Granger-D	Young-R	Maw-D	Colton-R	Snow-D	Hirschi-R	Miller-R	(No opponent)
.....												
Rockville	32	76	41	67	34	74	13	96	11	58	90	
Springdale	45	121	82	78	52	110	35	124	32	128	122	
Virgin	30	33	30	33	26	38	15	49	9	55	36	
Wash. Co.	1978	1630	2202	1419	2053	1556	1302	2302	1689	1122	2111	
Utah ....	153,833	92,973	155,499	91,931	62,654	47,021	128,519	117,713				
.....												

In the Census for 1940, Springdale had the greatest increase. Poor Grafton had died during the decade but her memory will never die.

The 1940 census follows :

	1920	1930	1940
.....			
Rockville	208	251	307
Springdale	204	351	454
Virgin	212	202	154
Wash. Co.	6,764	7,420	9,269
Utah	449,396	507,847	550,310
.....			

The Fourth of July was appropriately celebrated in Rockville with a children's parade in the morning, a ball game in the afternoon and a dance in the evening.

#### 1941 - Rockville Vs Hitler

Hitler's duplicity convinced the people of Rockville that they must accept the inevitable - war. Antagonisms were just as sour in Rockville as they were in Reno or the White House. Tensions on the Virgin, like those on the Patomac, were explosive. The bombing attack on Pearl Harbor shocked the whole nation. Boston and Rockville were equally stunned. People all over Utah were screaming for vengeance. Three Utahns were victims of the treachery. Dixie's sentimental feelings were offended. The Battleship "Utah" was sunk.

Psychologically, Rockville was well attuned for the conflict.

Prospects for farming in the Virgin valley were never better. The rainfall in Dixie was the best in 30 years.

In April the war clouds continued to become ever darker. Hitler was supreme in Europe, only England was free and fighting for its life. The free world stood on the brink of disaster. Hitler was replacing democracies

## History of Rockville

with dictatorships. A Gallup poll asked Utahns if they were willing to enter a war against Germany. 20% said yes, 74% said no. It is not known how Dixie voted. At least, Rockville was against war.

In October the war clouds were getting darker. Pearl Harbor was the climax. The people of Rockville suddenly found themselves involved in the world's greatest war. It was Rockville against Hitler - he eventually lost,

## 1942 - Rubber Rationing

The evil results of Pearl Harbor was sugar and rubber rationing. The Japanese had conquered all the Asiatic countries which produced sugar and rubber. Consequently, these products were promptly prevented from reaching America. Rationing therefore, became the only solution for conserving the limited stocks on hand.

Cane sugar was another commodity produced in South-east Asia. The Japanese promptly stopped all sugar from reaching Europe or America. The Western States produced beet sugar but in limited quantities. Utah's Dixie did not grow beets but she was a heavy consumer of sugar. The loss of cane sugar on the markets caused the price of sugar to shoot upward. The public immediately began hoarding it in large quantities. This forced the government to step in and start rationing.

The hoarding of rubber was not that easy. Rubber could not be produced in America like sugar. Japan completely controlled its production. It was the loss of rubber that threatened the economy of Utah's Dixie. No rubber, no automobiles nor truck transportation. Rubber was as essential to the economy as horses were in 1870. Horses were still used on Rockville farms and ranches. They were gradually being replaced by tractors and other gas engines. The horse drawn plow was still in use.

## 1942 - Rubber Rationing

During the legislative session, the law makers proposed two amendments. One would increase the salary of legislators, the other to tax chain stores with two or more outlets. Governor Maw had the audacity to sign them. The first implied the law maker should seek other employment if he was dissatisfied. The second was irrational, capricious and irresponsible, a sample of stone age economics. Rockville's two Republican members had the courage to vote against the amendments.

	To increase salary		Chain Store	
	Yes	No	Yes	no
.....				
Rockville	8	42	12	49
Springdale	8	55	16	61
Virgin	8	24	12	28
Wash. Co.	672	559	580	1544
Utah	32,638	59,127	40,496	91,271
.....				

In the general election, the three Virgin towns voted against the two New Deal stooges.

In that election, the future governor of Utah lost by only 179 votes.

At the graduation exercises at the Hurricane High School, May 7, there were seven students from Rockville in the graduating class.

The 1942 election returns :

# History of Rockville

	Granger-D	Lee-R	Gardner-D	Miller-R
Rockville	25	37	18	43
Springdale	37	49	39	47
Virgin	20	23	19	22
Wash. Co	1461	938	1359	1040
Utah .....	36,271	36,028		

## 1943 - Rockville's First Casualty

The war reached a climax. The Nazi advance in Africa began to crumble into dust. In the far East, Japan reached the limits of its conquest. By the end of 1943, the forces of Satan were in full retreat. The democratic nations had stopped retreating, reversed their steps, and began marching toward Berlin and Tokyo. Tensions were strained during these early months. Could democracy survive the greatest challenge of modern times ? The world was faced with two alternatives - submit to dictatorship or accept eternal slavery. America made its choice. They neither submitted nor accepted slavery. They choose

## 1943 - Rockville's First Casualty

democracy because it gave them greater freedom and liberty. Dictatorships favored world conquests at the expense of liberty. The tide of battle decided the issue. The forces of democracy proved to be the stronger. Rockville was on the winning side.

One of her sons who had chosen to fight and not retreat, paid the supreme price, and died fighting against Satan, June 7. Wounded in battle, he died in a hospital, age 22 and 11 days. His name, Francis Howard Henderson, born May 27, 1921, son of Harold. Two other men from Rockville were to die in 1944.

In spite of rationing, the people on the Virgin survived. Prosperity made some gains in Dixie, employment improved and farmers received higher prices for their crops. Altho the annual rainfall fell to 10.90, fair sized crops were grown.

## 1944 - Irrational Polygamists

The polygamists of Short Creek, 18 of whom had been excommunicated in 1935, had, after nine years, increased in numbers, grown more bold, become more efficient in spreading its false doctrines, and finally, more hostile toward the Mormon Church. The war had given the cult more freedom to practice polygamy openly.

These evil scoundrels challenged the federal and state enforcing officials to unite in a campaign to crush the cult. March 7, officers from Ogden to Salt Creek struck a deadly blow by arresting 46 and jailing them. These arrested were charged with violating the Mann Act, mailing obscene literature, illegal cohabitation and violating the kidnaping law.

It is believed the cult had a total membership of 2,000 in Utah. A few lived on the Virgin between Springdale and St George. Could there have been any in Rockville? Heavens forbid.



## History of Rockville

There were three brands of polygamists. The legal group who entered into the practice prior to the manifesto, they were approved by the Mormon church. The illegal polygamists who took their plural wives after the manifesto, these people lived in adultery. Finally, those who took plural wives in Mexico or Canada prior to April 6, 1904. These misguided morons believed geography shielded their acts.

The trial of the defendants began March 20. A jury of all Mormons was rejected by the polygamists but the judge over-ruled them. They were charged with violating the Mann Act. The trial lasted six months. October 6, 31 of the 46 persons on trial were found guilty of conspiring to practice and teach polygamy. After the sentence was handed down, 15 of the 31 convicted, appealed to the Utah Supreme Court. That court handed down its decision, December 1. The court said :

" We find no error in the record. The judgment of the trial court is therefore affirmed."

That ended the proceedings of 1944.

The Liquor Control act of 1935, had, after nine years of trial, completely broken down. It had more than failed - it had reached the public scandal stage. The situation required a man of courage and leadership to clean up the dirty dishes in the liquor stores. Governor Maw was too weak to do the job. The result, chaos in the liquor stores.

The world was also in a state of chaos. David O. McKay described the world as he saw it in 1944 :

" A few gangsters fired by selfishness and revenge and a desire for conquest, have gone mad, impelled by greedy avarice, ... they go forth to subdue, to conquer and to kill."

Obviously, he was talking about Hitler. It was this same mad war in Europe that was responsible for the death of Rex O. Russell of Grafton who was killed, July 10, in Italy, son of Oscar Russell. His body was brought home and buried August 1.



# 1944 - Irrational Polygamists

A new Bishop was appointed in Rockville, May 14, his name, Ira Guy DeMille, age 47, son of Oliver. His Counselors were Marvin Terry and Afton Ballard.

The Fifth War Loan drive was conducted in July. Rockville subscribed \$8,700; Springdale, \$3,000; and Virgin, \$1,000.

On the upper Virgin, the New Deal had rough going in the election. The four big dealers lost in the upper Virgin towns. There even the two legislative candidates lost. Claude Hirschi, after two attempts, won a seat in the Senate :

	Roosevelt-D	Dewey-R	Thomas-D	Bennion-R	Granger-D	Stringham-R	Maw-D	Lee-R	McFarlane-D	Hirschi-R	Gardner-D	Williams-R
Rockville	18	61	18	58	18	57	20	57	4	73	17	58
Springdale	24	88	26	85	27	82	26	83	19	92	28	82
Virgin	23	31	16	37	20	33	11	42	8	29	21	32
Wash. Co.	1625	1519	1701	1580	1775	1502	1637	1632	1239	2030	1696	1502
Utah .....	150,188	97,891	146,748	99,532	59,955	43,642	123,907	122,851				



IRA GUY DEMILLE  
1944-1949

Rockville's Eighth Bishop  
1897-

Born May 14, 1897  
Married March 11, 1919  
Wife : Ethel Sanders  
Born March 27, 1901.

Children:

Velyn, b. 1920, m. March 24, 1939 to Wourth Wood.  
Mildred, b. April 5, 1922, died April 27, 1923.  
Louise, b. March 17, 1923, m. Oct. 31, 1942 to Howard Savage.  
Lucille, b 1924, m. July 12, 1943 to Orlin Frehner.  
Betty, b. 1930, m. Dec. 2, 1950 to Gordon Frehner.

.....

First Counselors : Marvin Terry, 1944-1946  
Afton Ballard, 1946-1949

.....

Second Counselors : Afton Ballard, 1944-1946  
Kenneth L. Olsen, 1946-1947  
Clement Broderick, 1947-1949

Rockville

Francis H. Henderson  
Rex H. Henderson



June 7, 1943

Killed in World War II.

## 1945 - A Momentous Year

Rockville was carried away by the great events of 1945. It will rank in history with the greatest year of all times - 33 A.D. - when Christ was crucified and rose from the dead. Other potent years were : 476, fall of Rome; 1066, invasion of England; 1492, discovery of America; 1776, Declaration of Independence; 1815, battle of Waterloo; 1830, organization of the church; 1847, arrival of Utah pioneers; 1865, end of Civil War; 1896, statehood for Utah, and finally, 1918, end of World War I. Only the first was greater than 1945. That was the year the world witnessed the greatest explosion of all time. The atomic bomb shocked the world. It destroyed two cities. It ended a great dynasty that had existed a thousand years. A mighty Nazi dictatorship was crushed into ashes. The great war had to be ended by force of arms. Army Gaddan had nearly swallowed up the world. While the victorious nations had won the war, they eventually lost the peace. That was a great disaster.

Prior to the war a great depression had nearly destroyed the nation. In a desperate attempt to restore prosperity, false leaders used public funds to cure the economic sickness of the country. By 1939, the nation was sinking into oblivion. The war in Europe increased exports and created jobs for the idle millions. The war restored prosperity and ended the depression. In the 1944 election the voters of Rockville set the pattern for all honest citizens. The new deal candidates were repudiated at the polls. A majority of the voters had been brain-washed so completely they could not accept the truth. The climax came when the author of the New Deal, himself, could not endure the pressure longer, and succumbed. The New Deal soon followed him to the grave.

Hitler, the great egotist, had boasted that his dynasty would last a thousand years, collapsed in 12 years. He personified dictatorship in its most savage shape.

## History of Rockville

His advent was made possible by the failures of the Versailles treaty to resolve the vexing problems of peace. At the end of the conflict, Hitler and his generals were forced to either surrender or commit suicide. Hitler set them a good example. He committed suicide. This was a great victory against Satan.

One month earlier, the United Nations was born at San Francisco. Its first and most vexing problem was the veto. Russia demanded a right to a veto. She threatened to pull out unless the veto was granted. The other nations were too weak to resist. She won. That provision in the constitution proved fatal to the League's effectiveness. That veto has been responsible for the complete failure of the United Nations.

The end of the war cheered the people on the Virgin. It was a great relief. It ended rationing on all items except rubber, sugar and liquor. The bootleggers wanted liquor to continue under rationing.

July 30, it was reported that ten Rockville boys were serving in the armed services, they were :

Paul Crawford, Kent Justet, Mack, Austin and Demonte Excell; Victor Ruesch, Gene Cope, Gerald and Lorin Gifford and Van Joyt.

## 1946 - Can Teach Polygamy

The right of free speech had been guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution. That right gave the individual the freedom to teach and advocate polygamy, so long as he did not put his views into action.

The struggle of the Fundamentalists to both teach and practice polygamy had been prohibited by a Utah law passed in 1892. In 1944 we noted the Utah Supreme court had denied the right to teach polygamy. The Fundamentalists were dissatisfied with that opinion and again appealed to

## 1946 - Can Teach Polygamy

the Utah Supreme Court who on December 16, 1946, sustained the same ruling of 1944. The defendants had again claimed that the advocating the practice of polygamy was merely the expressing of an opinion or belief which are immune from prosecution under constitutional guarantees of religious liberty and freedom of speech. The court's rejection of their position prompted the defendants to appeal their case to the U.S. Supreme Court which was resolved in 1948.

The year was plagued by strikes which cost the nation a lot of trouble. These labor troubles did not affect the people living on the Virgin.

Rockville was more interested in the neglected Dixie project which had been sleeping since 1940. This project was tied to the Central Arizona Reclamation Project which was waging a war against California. Until that dispute was settled, no progress could be made on the Dixie dam. The Arizona-California war continued unresolved for 22 more years.

The election of 1946 had two surprises. A new Republican Senator (Watkins) was elected and Arthur V. Watkins defeated the ancient Robinson who had served since 1933. For the first time since 1930, Washington County went Republican in the contest for the U.S. Senate. The Three Virgin towns went overwhelmingly Republican. The Republican party was on its way back.

During the year a committee was appointed to make plans to improve the grounds of the cemetery. They planted flowers, trees and grass. A water system was installed to keep the plants growing well.

1946 election returns :

# History of Rockville

	Murdock-D	Watkins-R	Cranger-D	Wilson-R	Gardner-D	Judd-R
.....						
Rockville	17	41	15	46	7	55
Springdale	24	83	27	81	19	87
Virgin	13	62	22	54	14	61
Wash. Co.	1552	1759	1651	1678	1722	1591
Utah .....	96,257	101,142	44,888	44,784		

## 1947 - Utah's Centennial

Rockville and the great state of Utah celebrated the one-hundredth anniversary of her settlement. The realization of this great exploit caused many thrilling emotions to pass through the body. Utah's first 49 years was spent as a Territory. As a state, she was only fifty one years young. 1947 will be a memorable one. The Centennial of settlement will be celebrated by all loyal



## 1947 - Utah's Centennial

citizens who love and adore their mountain home. Many villages in Utah planned lively events which will provide culture, education, inspiration and amusement for the people. The Legislature appropriated \$861,500 to cover the expenses of conducting Utah's World Fair.

Rockville, like a hundred other towns in Utah, made elaborate plans for the Centennial. First, a full week was spent cleaning up the town. At the end of that period, April 19, a centennial ball was held centered around several joyful festivities. At the ball, a queen was crowned - the "Rockville Centennial Queen", Miss Thoma Lester, was highly honored.

Another event leading up to the Centennial was the "Golden Spike" celebration, May 10, the 78th anniversary of the driving of the last spike connecting the east and west coasts by rail. The event was called a "Glorious Origin." Joining the rails symbolized :

"Yesterday a crusade, Tomorrow an Empire, That in brief is the Mormon story."

July 20, Washington County held an annual Beautification contest inviting all towns to participate. This contest was sponsored by the State Board of Education. Believe it or not, Rockville won that contest.

An individual prize was awarded to the home owner who made his home look the most beautiful. That prize went to Hyrum DeMille.

July 24 was the day of days in Rockville. A street parade was held - called the "Pioneer Trek". A campfire breakfast was held. In the afternoon, sports, games and races for children. A ball in the evening ended the celebration.

In 1947 there were too many Mormons who drank whisky. Government reports for 1947 in Utah show that every person drank an average of 1.8 gallons per year, and that each person spent a average of \$19.33 per year on liquor.

In 1947 Utah consumed 1,153,956 gallons of liquor at a cost of \$12,315,827.. Did the non-Mormons consume this liquor ?

## 1948 - War Ends at Vernal

Unfortunately, the Dixie project was not a part of the upper basin controversy. Since the Virgin river joined the Colorado stream below Lee's Ferry, the Dixie project was doomed to become a part of the lower basin war between Arizona and California. The controversy between the four upper basin states was a bitter one as 1948 came rushing in. The apportionment of the 6,750,000 acre feet allotted to the four upper states had to be settled before the federal government would grant additional reclamation permits. Two conferences to apportion those waters had failed to solve the problem. The first in Denver, December, 1947 and at Salt Lake City in January, 1948. In July a final conference was held in Vernal, Utah. That conference on July 21 reached a final agreement on the number of acre feet each state would receive. Utah was given 23% of the 6,750,000 or about 1,687,000 acre feet per year, Colorado, 51%, New Mexico, 11% and Wyoming less.

The persistent polygamists, not satisfied with the court's decision of 1946 wherein the teaching of polygamy was considered as unlawful as practicing it, promptly appealed their case to the U.S. Supreme Court who on February 9, refused to resolve the issue. The court said :

" The Utah statute...is so vague and indefinite... it fails to define the offense....It attempts to cover so much, it effectively covers nothing."

The Utah judgment was vacated and the case returned to Utah for study. The Utah Supreme Court resolved the case two years later.

In the election of 1948, the Democrats were generally successful but J. Bracken Lee was the lone Republican victor. The towns on the Virgin went Republican with one exception - Rockville gave Granger a majority. Rockville also gave Hinton a majority, otherwise, the Virgin gave the Republicans healthy majorities. Washington County, for the first time, gave the Republican candidates for President and governor strong majorities.



1948 Election Returns :

	Truman-D	Dewey-R	Granger-D	Wilson-R	Maw-D	Lee-R	Gardner-D	Marsden-R	Hinton-D	Sandberg-R
Rockville	23	26	26	24	10	41	25	25	32	18
Springdale	24	102	32	90	32	93	29	93	66	57
Virgin	21	50	30	41	18	53	26	43	34	35
Wash. Co.	1580	2030	1985	1614	1574	2046	2212	1367	2023	1549
Utah .....	149,151	124,402	66,641	46,229	123,814	151,253				

1949 - Year of Turbulence

Even the weather was violent. 25 inches of snow fell in January in many areas. In northern Utah the average temperature was 11.6. The Virgin Valley escaped these violent storms, protected as it was by mountain ranges and spectacular cliffs. During those early months the whole world was suffering from turbulence and violence that made the Boston massacre look tame. The cold war with Russia got colder when she

## History of Rockville

gobbled up Poland and exploded her first atomic bomb. The explosion of the Dutch from Indonesia and the Nationalists from China made the cold war hotter. In America the people were severely harassed by the steel, copper and coal strikes. The Republicans were vindicated when Truman was forced to use the Taft act to end the strikes, the same act he tried to veto and repeal.

The advent of J. Bracken Lee ended 16 years of socialism in Utah. These irrational new dealers taught that depressions could be cured by generous hand-outs to the unemployed. The record showed that the policy had sunk both the state and the national government deeper and deeper into a depression. That philosophy was responsible for ex-Governor Maw's defeat in 1948.

Lee's first act was to sweep out the corrupt Liquor Commissioners and replace them with efficient and honest officials. Lee, however, aroused anger in Weber County when he vetoed a bill that would have made Weber a four year college.

The upper basin Compact had been signed in 1948 with the understanding that each state would ratify the agreement. The Compact was introduced into the Utah Legislature, January 14 and ratified January 31. All the other states had ratified by February 2. Congress approved April 6. The Dixie project was not included in that compact.

A contest in Washington County to choose the most useful citizen in each town was decided February 24. The person selected in Rockville was Mrs. Nora Dalton Lester. It was said of her that she "radiated peace and tranquillity to all persons near her."

June 12, Heber Hirschi, age 54, son of David, was appointed Bishop of Rockville. His counselors were Afton Ballard and Artimus DeMille.



HEBER HIRSCHI  
1949- 1951

Rockville's Ninth Bishop  
1895-1968

Born. Nov. 19, 1895,  
Died January 17, 1968.  
Married Mar. 29, 1918 to :

Evelyn Langston, born Mar. 23, 1896.  
Dau. of William Langston and  
Phebe Farnes.

Children :

Clair, b. 1919, d 1937, m. Dec. 24, 1936 to Gail Lyman.  
Donna, b. 1922, d. 1958, m. May 5, 1942 to Robert Albrecht.  
Arden, b. 1925, m. Dec. 25, 1948 to Nellie Matheson.  
Ramona, b. 1928, m. Sept. 14, 1949 to Paul Hartfield.  
David, b. 1930, m. June 22, 1949 to Lorna Isom.  
Kent, b. April 4, 1933, m. Oct. 1, 1966 to Norma Schiefer.  
Shirl, b. 1936, died May 9, 1945.  
Craig, b. 1941, m. June 21, 1968 to Linda Lund.  
Evelyn, b. 1944, m. Sept. 1, 1967 to Gary Merrill.

.....

School Board Member - 20 years  
Utah State School Board Member - 5 years  
1958 - Given Distinguished Service Award.

.....

Son of David Hirschi, Rockville's Fifth Bishop.

## 1950 - Polygamists Win

The decade was ushered in by the dropping of the hydrogen bomb. That explosion set the pattern for the next ten years. A new age had arrived.

The national coal strike in February exposed the weakness of the Taft-Hartley act to control strikes in the coal mines. Truman had tried to kill the Taft act by vetoing it, then later, he urged Congress to repeal it, neither worked. When the big coal strike began, Truman immediately put the act in motion to force the miners back to work. The miners openly defied the President by refusing to work. A second order to return was also rejected. That refusal killed the Taft law. The labor bosses had successfully defied the President. The weakness of Truman was alarming. The nation needed another Calvin Coolidge to crush the labor dictators. Truman's failure came like another hydrogen bomb. Uncle Sam had been murdered by his own citizens.

A second shock awaited the people of Utah when the polygamists of Short Creek were granted full rights to teach polygamy. A Supreme Court decision granted them the right of free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment. This decision ended the controversy in Utah. The Mormon Church was highly disappointed by the decision. They had been fighting the Fundamentalists in the courts since 1944. The Short Creek cult celebrated the event with enthusiasm.

A sensation was created when Utah's big new dealer, Elbert D. Thomas, a senator for 18 years, was defeated in the election. He was labor's greatest advocate and supporter in the Senate. He had rode into political power in 1932 on the wings of a false political philosophy. He replaced a man (Smoot) far above him in political wisdom and statesmanship. Thomas was absorbed into Roosevelt's radical doctrine which taught that public funds generously distributed to the unemployed would restore prosperity. Like Roosevelt, Thomas became a

# 1950 - Polygamists Win

tool for labor unions which explains his re-election in 1938 and 1944. With the arrival of 1950, Thomas fully expected to cash in on his new deal record. But the Republicans had other ideas. His three elections were not made possible by the support of the three towns on the upper Virgin. In all three elections, his opponents won by large majorities. His defeat in 1950 was like another bomb falling on Salt Lake City.

## 1950 Election Returns :

	Thomas-D	Bennett-R	Granger-D	Jones-R	Hinton-D	Clark-R
.....						
Rockville	12	59	17	34	23	48
Springdale	27	102	37	93	58	72
Virgin	15	33	17	32	30	19
Wash. Co. ..						
	1365	2073	1606	1832	1767	1667
Utah .....	121,198	142,427	54,161	51,868		
.....						

In the three Virgin towns, Thomas was given a real trouncing. Even Washington County which had always voted Democratic, went strongly for Bennett who

## History of Rockville

also defeated him state-wide.

The census for 1950 gave Rockville an increase of 146 over 1940, this could easily be an error.

The Springdale count is more difficult to believe. A loss of 280 is impossible. During the 40s Springdale was enjoying a great expansion in growth. Virgin was consistent, she showed no change:

	1950	1940	Change
Rockville	453	307	+ 146
Springdale	174	454	- 280
Virgin	154	154	0
Wash. Co.	9,836	9,269	+ 567
Utah	688,862	550,310	+ 138,552.

.....

During the first four months of 1950, Rockville spent a lot of money and labor making improvements on public buildings and grounds. A sprinkling system for the chapel and Recreation Hall was installed. Rock ditches were built, lawns and shrubs were planted. The aim was to beautify the town and let the world know that industrious people lived in the village. During March and April, street lighting came to Rockville. A culinary water system was installed.

## 1951 - Rains and Drouths

The Virgin Valley had suffered four seasons of severe drouth. The U.S. Weather Bureau station at St. George reported that in 1947, Dixie had only 5.62 inches of rain; 1948, 5.51; 1950, 4.10; and 1951 was nearly back to normal, 10.67. Suddenly, a great change, in March, rains came down in torrents causing the greatest flood in six years.

## 1951 - Rains and Drouths

The Washington County News for April 19, reported that Rockville had eleven boys in the service, namely : Bill Regland, Korea; Evan Cox, Texas; Devon Terry, California; Drew Jennings, Kentucky; Gaylard Lester, Japan; Jemmy Dalton, Korea; Birell Hirschi, Texas; Brighton Terry, Texas; and Melvin Ballard, Texas.

July 4 was enthusiastically celebrated in Rockville with a parade and program in the morning, races and games for children in the afternoon and a dance in the evening.

September 30, a new Bishop was appointed in Rockville. His name, Afton Ballard, age 54, son of David. His two counselors were Alma J. Cox and Floyd H. DeMille.

The citizens of Rockville were interested in the great events that were plaguing the nation. Governor J. Bracken Lee's battle for economy was highly approved. While the Dixie project could not be acted on, the people in Dixie looked with favor on the Central Utah Project. The firing of General MacArthur from the supreme command in Korea caused bitter feelings against President Truman.

The three day Copper strike, August 26-30, affected the people in the Virgin Valley. Utah ranked second in copper. Her yearly production was 197,245 short tons, its value was \$77,714,530.

## 1952 - Democrats Swept Out

The election of 1920 was repeated with deadly accuracy in 1952. It was a national house cleaning long over-due. In Washington, national affairs had become corrupt, inefficient and demoralized. Unwise decisions by Truman had bogged down our army in Korea in a phony war whose strategy was directed by civilian politicians in Washington. The only man whose



## History of Rockville

competence and skill could have ended the war promptly had been fired by Truman in a fit of rage and jealousy. Consequently, the war dragged on till 33,629 men were sacrificed in bloody combat to satisfy Truman's fear that the war might spread. It was cheaper, Truman moralized, to let thousands die than to blast the barbarians into submission by one mighty atomic bomb. These 33,629 lives were lost to pay for Truman's blunder. May God forgive us for re-electing Truman in 1948. Truman had proven to be the most damnable scoundrel who ever cursed this earth.

Knowing they could get away with murder, 4,000 steel workers in Utah walked off their jobs in April and remained off 52 days. The idiot in the White House unlawfully seized the steel mills, thus placing them under government management, a predicament far worse than the strike itself. This illegal procedure was indeed, substituting executive authority for collective bargaining. The Supreme Court promptly rebuked Truman for violating the constitution. His act constituted usurping the legislative powers reserved to Congress. This reprimand forced Truman to promptly release the mills to their private owners. Only Congress has the authority to take private property for public use. Stupid Truman did not know that. This incident explains the reason the Democrats were swept out of office three months later.

The county of Washington which had been dominated by the Democrats for decades, joined the upper Virgin voters and gave the Democrats the worst defeat since 1920.

1952 Election Returns :

	Stevenson-D	Eisenhower-R	Granger-D	Watkins-R	McKay-D	Stringfellow-R	Glade-D	Lee-R	Rickett-D	Hafen-R	Barlocker-D	Sanders-R
Rockville	6	68	15	59	12	60	19	55	25	48	16	57
Springdale	33	118	42	110	36	111	39	108	58	93	41	107
Virgin	7	52	8	51	7	47	8	53	15	45	10	50
Wash. Co.	1076	2941	1444	2560	1268	2690	1510	2496	1604	2390	1818	2163
Utah .....	135,364	194,190	149,598	177,435	49,898	76,545	147,188	180,516				

1953 - Basket Ball Champions

While Governor Lee was urging economy and a tax reduction to the legislators, a small community on the Virgin made sporting history by winning a tournament spot sponsored by the church Y.M.M.I.A basket ball league. To qualify for the church tournament in Salt Lake City, held February 25, the Rockville team had to win a Southern Utah tournament held at St. George consisting of teams from 8 stakes which was completed February 14. Rockville met and defeated three teams before being declared the winner of the regional area. In the first game Rockville

## History of Rockville

defeated Las Vegas, 38 to 36. In the second game, Rockville won over Minersville, 48 to 34. The final game, Rockville won over College Ward of Cedar City, 64 to 41. That gave the title to Rockville.

The Rockville champions arrived in Salt Lake City, February 23 ready to meet the best teams the church could produce. Rockville's first opponent was Fairmount Ward. Unfortunately, she lost, 64 to 30. That did not discourage the rocky team. They next took on Sugar City, Idaho. That was a sad disappointment, she was defeated 58 to 38. It seemed to the players, the whole world was weeping with them. This loss eliminated Rockville in future contests. Her entrance into the tournament had put Rockville on the map. Thousands of Utahns did not know Rockville existed. The names of the boys on that team were : Kelland Terry, Erald Ballard, Donald Nuttall, Ben F. Madsen, Arden V. Allred, Dixon Terry, Thomas Stirling and T. Hirschi.

Utah was honored by the appointment of one of its citizens to be Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, a native of Idaho. He was named by President Eisenhower, who gave as his reason : "The nation needs a man who can restore faith in the government." Benson spent the next 8 years fighting the Democrats who wanted him kicked out.

The war against Benson was paralleled by another fight between Lee and the Utah Education Association. Lee, the budget balancer, in protest against the irresponsible spenders, declared war on the U.E.A. who demanded excessive appropriations on "unwise" school programs. When these teachers became impatient and arrogant, Lee gave them a well deserved tongue lashing. To appease the teachers, Lee recommended that Carbon, Snow, Weber and Dixie Junior colleges be discontinued in June, 1955 to make available more funds for the schools. This suggestion caused a major upheaval which we will note in 1954.

Rockville was hit by a severe frost, April 8

### 1953 - Basket Ball Champions

which killed all the fruit in the community.

Four boys from Rockville were serving in the Korea war, namely : Benzel Hirschi, DeVon Terry, Evan Cox, and Brieton Terry.

A two day rain storm dropped  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches on July 31, August 1. The town was a mass of mud, rocks and boulders which blocked roads, farms and crops causing much destruction of property.

### 1954 - Dixie College Survives

December 17, 1953, the Utah Legislature, accepting the recommendation of Governor Lee, passed an act abolishing three junior colleges - Snow, Weber and Dixie - the date for their closing was June 30, 1955. Later, Carbon College was included. Since Dixie College is the only school involved in this history, the other schools will not be considered. The enactment of that legislation directly concerned the people on the upper Virgin where their students went for higher education. The loss of that institution to the people in Washington County was a disaster. At first the people ignored the legislation ending the college, but on second thought, the people suddenly awoke to the seriousness of the situation and began to protest vehemently. Soon the tide changed, when the whole county came alive. Mass meetings were held, petitions were circulated and within six weeks the required number of signers had been obtained. Accordingly, a suitable amendment was written and placed on the November ballot. Two amendments were placed on the ballot, the other one involved Carbon College which was voted on separately.

Beginning in September a hot campaign developed. To Lee, the decision of the people was frightening. If the four colleges were to be abolished, then Lee would be

# History of Rockville

vindicated. In that case, Lee's prestige would mount dangerously high. Lee might become Utah's Hitler, a dictator. Lee had asked the Legislature to discontinue the colleges and they did. Now, must the people obey Lee and end the colleges? Or, should they take the advise of the petitioners and vote for the restoration of the colleges? The people answered with a vengeance. November 2, the verdict was against Lee. It was a major rebuke for him - and he deserved it. The results on the Virgin :

	Three Colleges		Carbon only	
	For	Against	For	Against
.....				
Rockville	52	2	20	25
Springdale	68	23	20	77
Virgin	31	6	11	23
Wash. Co.	2680	488	476	2549
Utah	92,787	137,389	49,511	176,681
.....				

## Results of 1954 election :

	Dixon-R	Granger-D	Sanders-R	Wood-bury	
Rockville	43	16	44	14	
Springdale	92	27	88	31	
Virgin	31	14	36	8	
Wash. Co	2169	1279	1656	1796	
.....					

Utah count :  
Dixon- 52,542  
Granger - 48,535

The people of Rockville had 53 automobiles, and 14 farm tractors.

AFTON BALLARD

Rockville's Tenth Bishop  
1951-1958



Born January 1, 1897, married May 12, 1920 to Annie Worthen.  
Annie was born May 15, 1897, dau. of George.

(Page 232-B)

Children :

Larry, b. 1934, m. August 13, 1953 to Nellie Hardy.

Karen, b 1938, m. Sept. 26, 1958 to Sheldon Wright....

Counselors to Bishop Ballard :

First : Alma J. Cox, 1951-1958.

Second : Floyd H. DeMille, 1951-1956.

Donald E. DeMille, 1956-1958.



## 1955 - Rockville Modernized

While polygamy was increasing, taps were sounded for Echo Park, Benson was busy ending rigid prices, an irrational re-apportionment law was declared constitutional by a biased court, all these and more were plaguing Utah whose governor had been bitterly rebuked by the voters. This egotist after being rebuked, had the audacity to believe he was qualified to occupy the White House. These views did not appeal to the people of Rockville who had plans to modernize their village by making needed improvements.

During the first three months the farmers completed an irrigation project in which a 500 foot siphon was placed under the river and connected to canals which carried the water to the town lots.

In February a new telephone dial system was installed. The people believed in modernizing.

During the year the Washington County Board of Education decided to discontinue the Rockville school and bus the pupils to Springdale. This caused a storm of protest in Rockville.

Six non-Mormon families moved into the community.

## 1956 - Lee Fades Away

Just as Echo Park died a natural death in 1955, so Governor Lee suffered a like fate in 1956. The voters on the upper Virgin had given Lee a strong majority in 1952 when he was re-elected. Lee had committed political suicide in 1954 when he killed the four colleges. The referendum to restore the schools completed Lee's exit from Utah's politics. In 1955 his popularity continued to decline. By 1956, he was finished but unaware of it.

Lee's seven years of rigid economy ended in 1956. The people were sick of his crusades to balance the budgets.



## 1956 - Lee Fades Away

A large portion of Utah citizens were beginning to resent the ever-lasting propaganda of save and skimp in state expenditures. Lee, unconsciously, alienated many in the Republican party by his dogmatic views. He did not possess the capacity to tolerate opinions which clashed with his own. He had an exalted opinion of himself. This explains his fading away. His seven years in office had affected his pride. In April he announced his candidacy for a third term. He had condemned Maw in 1948 for seeking a thirs term, but in his opinion, it was perfectly right for him to seek a third term.

In the Republican Convention, Lee received 348 votes; George D. Clyde, 318 and Mabey, 291. That boosted his prospects for winning in the primary, September 11. But unfortunately, that primary gave him a stunning 8,000 defeat by Clyde. Lee was neither dounted nor stricken dumb by the defeat. He just would not fade away. He was determined to die fighting. His friends were equally angry at the Clyde machine. They organized a new party and named it " Citizens for Lee." 442 persons signed the petition which put the party on the ballot. The public's reaction was terrific. In anger the Tribune shouted : " He has shown his true colors. He values his vanity above all else. ...We must turn back the Democrats and Leecrats." The regular Republicans reacted by adopting a resolution pledging their support to George D. Clyde for Governor and calling upon all true Republicans to support the full national and state ticket of the party.

The crushing of Lee made the head-lines all over the nation. He received only half as many votes as Clyde in Rockville and one third as many in Springdale. Why ? The people were sick and tired of economy and its reputed merits.

The Virgin Valley was passing through another drouth which was causing a lot of suffering.

Results of the 1956 election :

	Eisenhower-R	Stevenson-D	Bennett-R	Hopkin-D	Dixon-R	Gronning-D	Clyde-R	Romney-D	Lee-C.I	Hafen-R	Woodbury-D
Rockville	56	8	50	11	10	10	31	10	17	52	25
Springdale	140	16	123	31	125	28	100	20	37	150	145
Virgin	48	4	44	7	6	6	35	7	10	50	50
Wash. Co.	3172	877	2742	1259	2959	1027	2436	909	676	3237	2108
Utah .....	215,631	118,364	178,261	152,120	74,107	47,533	127,164	111,297	94,438		

### 1957 - Farm Problems

The drouth which began in June, 1956, continued on till the end of March. Southern Utah was witnessing its fifth straight year of a burning drouth. The Virgin Valley was caught in the middle.

The farmers in the Virgin basin were strong supporters of the Benson farm plan, its objectives were :

Freedom to plant.

Freedom for farmers to make their own decisions.

Getting rid of all controls and taking the shackles off farmer efficiency,

Building farm markets at home and abroad.

Getting food into stomachs instead of storage.

Helping all small farmers to help themselves.

Benson's Platform :

## 1957 - Farm Problems

" I do not propose for the sake of political expediency to run the risk of destroying the very family farm we set out to save."

Since 1935 the Democratic party had destroyed the small farmer and aided the big farmer. All farm legislation, said Benson, should be repealed so the farmer could solve his own problems without interference from the government. Complete freedom was the highest goal the Virgin farmer wanted. These were the principles the farmers living on the upper Virgin were striving to obtain. Thanks to providence the drouth situation eased up at the years end.

## 1958 - A Senate Fight

In total precipitation, 1958 was the driest year since 1939. It was a dry year in Dixie where 10.60 inches fell dur the year. In Zion canyon, the precipitation was 17.84.

May 9, Bishop Afton Ballard was released and was replaced by Alma J. Cox.

It was a hectic year for Senator Watkins and ex-Governor Lee who were under fire all during the year. As the new year arrived, the question every one was asking was : Will we have prosperity, another depression or an ugly war ? The Democrats chose war. These impatient politicians chose to declar war on Benson's new flexible price control act. This act had recently been enacted and had not yet taken effect. These impatient Democrats were screaming for Benson's scalp. They passed another new deal high support measure which Eisenhower promptly vetoed, said he : " What the farm economy needs is a thaw, not a freeze, forward looking action, not enforced stagnation."

In the campaign for the election of a U.S.Senator,

## History of Rockville

Lee ran on the Citizens for Lee ticket. He began a campaign, state wide, that took the people by storm. He soon had a large following that put fear into his opponents. His opponents were Arthur V. Watkins, nominated by the Republicans and Frank E. Moss by the Democrats. The Leecrates were warned that a vote for Lee would be a "wasted vote", but Bracken ignored the warning. In this three man contest, the voters of Utah were called upon to judge the worthiness of two valient fighters for Utah' water rights. The famous "dam fighters" who had fought so valiantly for Utah's rights on the Colorado. After the legislation was completed and construction on the dams had begun, the people of Utah expressed their appreciation and gratiitude of a job well done by kicking them out of office. This was a monstrous outrage that put Utah to open shame. Utah lost its prudence and sanity in that election. The Democrats had been howling "for a change." The voters did get a change, but not a change for the better. The change was the election of two spenders who were sent to Congress to disrupt the economic well being of the country. It was Lee's candidacy that caused the drfeat of Watkins. We must blame the Watkins tragedy on Lee's foolish decision to run, it was his greatest blunder, and Utah was the victim of that boner.

Comparing the result with Lee's 1952 record, he suffered a great defeat. The election returns proved to be a great disaster for Utah. The Utah Senate had a one vote majority for the coming session in January. But the Democrats were given a 20 vote margin in the House. That spelled trouble for Clyde. It turned out to be more serious than just trouble.

The people on the upper Virgin were very much opposed horse race betting. All three towns defeated the proposition. The election returns :

	Watkins-R	Moss-D	Lee-C.L.	Dixon-R	Peterson-D	Esplin-R	Squares-D	Horse Racing	
								Yes	No
.....									
Rockville	32	11	17	46	12	16	43	11	37
Springdale	60	24	53	93	38	37	98	49	67
Virgin	24	9	11	30	14	2	42	12	23
Wash. Co.								829	2014
	1883	931	761	2446	1084	1250	2361	91,148	149,877
Utah .....	101,471	112,827	77,013	58,141	49,735				
.....									

### 1959 - A State in Jeopardy

The farmers and laboring classes on the upper Virgin were in deep trouble as 1959 came rushing in. In May, 1958, a depression had begun in Utah, first the mining industry suffered a set-back due to low prices, then the steel strike caused a loss in tax payments, by the end of the year, the situation was reflected in the election returns. To the weak minded in Utah, Clyde was responsible for the recession so they voted accordingly. The ratio in the House was changed to a 42 to 22 for the Democrats. This gave them a fatal control over legislation in

## History of Rockville

the 1959 session. The Democrats, in revenge, took advantage of this power by deliberately crippling Clyde's legislative program.

The most contemptible man in the opposition group was elected Speaker of the House, Sheldon R. Brewster, an egotist from Salt Lake, took advantage of the situation by deliberately refusing to take action on bills introduced into the House. This strategy earned a well deserved rebuke from the governor for his "obstructionist tactics".

Brewster was the villain of the session. He pursued a time wasting course, throwing road-blocks in the path of important legislation. While he occupied the Speaker's chair the state was in jeopardy. His aim in these irrational tactics was to sabotage Clyde's legislative program thus bring down public condemnation on the Republican administration. Such unethical conduct deserved the severest punishment. Utah was the victim of that disastrous election which maned the House with incompetents who were unfit to serve the state in any capacity. The final result of this calamity was that Governor Clyde was forced to call a special session to complete the work the Democrats refused to do.

Freedom on the farm was also in jeopardy. The Benson plan saved the Virgin farmers from these difficulties and enabled them to plant what they wanted in quantities needed.

The freedom of the small grocer in small towns were threatened by the large super markets. The Democratic majority favored the large markets and passed a law forbidding business on Sundays. Clyde quickly vetoed it. An attempt to over-ride, failed. For once, the poor people in Utah, won. The small grocery stores on the Virgin were free to do business on Sundays if they chose.



ALMA J. COX

Rockville's Eleventh Bishop  
1958 - 1968

The Cox Family :



Left to right : Tracy Lee; Mrs Angeletta Howard Cox;  
Bishop Cox; and Jackie Lynn. Bottom : Sandra Re;  
Steven W., and Laurie Dawn.

Bishop Cox was born October 29, 1916, Married September  
2, 1944 to Angeletta Howard, born October 7, 1920.

.....

Counselors to Bishop Cox :

First : Donald E. DeMille, 1958 - 1968.  
Second : Dixon Terry, 1958 - 1961.  
Glenn W. Steed, 1961 - 1968.



## 1960 - Exodus from Rockville

The 1950 U.S. Census for Rockville gave her 453 inhabitants. This must be a monstrous error. The Census Bureau is known for making such errors. The L.D.S. Ward clerk knew every inhabitant personally so his accuracy cannot be questioned. He gave Rockville's count as 168. Allowing for about ten non-members, the total count could not be more than 178.

In 1960, the U.S. Census gave Rockville 266, while the ward clerk listed 115. These figures are closer together. If these figures are true, then the census count of 453 for 1950 is not true. The yearly church count between 1950 and 1960 repudiates the census.

1960 - 168	1957 - 112
1953 - 130	1958 - 120
1954 - 136	1959 - 118
1955 - 104	1960 - 115
1956 - 116	1961 - 107
	1962 - 97.

These figures are consistent. The ward clerk could make errors but not on that scale. The only conclusion to be drawn is : There was no major exodus from Rockville after 1950. Since we are studying a census, here is the 1960 census :

Rockville, 266. Springdale, 248, Virgin, 124.  
Washington County, 10,271, Utah, 890,627.

The farm problem in 1960 was crucial. Benson's fight for the farmer was also Rockville's fight. The "cost", said Benson, "of supporting wheat prices alone is \$1,000 a minute." Benson insisted that if the "farmers were left alone, without federal interference, they would quickly adjust their crop production to conform with the law of supply and demand." The Rockville farmers agreed. Benson added : " Controls breed controls."

In the election, Rockville supported Clyde against a Dixie candidate for the governorship - Mr Barlocker. But Springdale and Virgin gave majorities to Barlocker of St. George. Barlocker carried Washington County but failed in the state-wide contest for governor. Nixon and Stevenson were the winners.

The 1960 election returns :

	Nixon-R	Kennedy-D	Stevenson-R	Peterson-D	Clyde-R	Barlocker-D	Hafen-R	Foremaster-D	Iverson-R	Squires-D
Rockville	49	11	46	15	38	28	89	79	15	45
Springdale	125	49	101	59	65	109	89	14	48	133
Virgin	45	8	44	10	18	37	38	17	8	47

Wash. Co.

2876 1298 2282 1768 1329 2848 2418 1723 1311 2804

Utah .....

205,361 169,248 65,871 65,939 195,634 175,855

1961 - Plagued by Drouths

The average precipitation in Dixie from 1958 to 1961 was 7.38 - five inches less than in Salt Lake. The average temperature at the St George weather station during that same period was 62.5 or 10 degrees higher than at the Salt Lake station. The drouth was a more serious problem in the south.

## History Of Rockville

In June, the crops in Rockville were burning up. The cattle on the ranges were dying of starvation. The quality of the town's fruit was impaired. Precipitation was nearly non-existent. Virgin Valley was doomed. Four years of drouth had nearly killrd Dixie. The snow level in the mountains was far below normal as 1961 arrived. In February, two snow storms gave some hope but no more precipitation that year. Some counties were completely out of irrigation water by May 1. Parts of the state was declared a disaster area. The Weather Bureau reported that from June to August Utah experienced the hottest period on record. The wicked who died in Dixie and went to hell, discovered on arrival, that the temperature in hell was far cooler! Finally, in September, heavy rains fell but they were too late to help the crops.

August 18 and 19, the people of Rockville celebrated the one hundredth arrival in Dixie of the pioneers who arrived in St. George. Both days were given over to games, dancing, barbecues and fun. Rockville's centennial was celebrated later when Rockville was settled.

### 1962 - Rockville's Centennial

The most probable date for the settlement of Rockville may be February 4, 1862. In December 1861 a group of families were living on the north bank of the Virgin river about a mile down the valley from the future Rockville which they called "Adventure". They hoped the site would be permanent. A rain storm changed their minds. Suddenly, on Christmas day, a major rain storm broke loose. It was not a regular two-day storm, it lasted 40 days. By that time, the Virgin was over-flowing its banks and flooding 90% of the town. That settled the matter. The people concluded that Adventure was unsafe as a permanent settlement. The storm ended February 3. Within 5 days,

1962 - Rockville's Centennial

John Langston moved his family up the valley to a spot previously selected and began building a home. That was the beginning of Rockville. The date could be February 4 to 8, 1862. One of those days could be the founding of Rockville. Which ever day it was, that was the birth day of Rockville and should be celebrated as such. In 1962, the people of Rockville did not celebrate any of those days. It is possible that some day a date will be selected.

After a feverish campaign, the voters on the upper Virgin selected their favorite candidates, all of them were Republicans. The County Clerk failed to record the results of the contest for county representative. Only the totals were given : Clark, (R) 1311, Squires (D), 2313.

	Amendment Increase Salaries					
	Bennett-R	King-D	Burton-R	Peterson-D	Yes	No
.....						
Rockville	36	18	34	17	13	31
Springdale	79	75	80	71	32	111
Virgin	25	19	23	21	8	23
Wash. Co.					869	1911
.....						
Utah	166755	151679	151656	59032	56989	
	1957	1827	1755			

In December the farmers completed the construction of a cement dam across the Virgin, costing \$3,250.

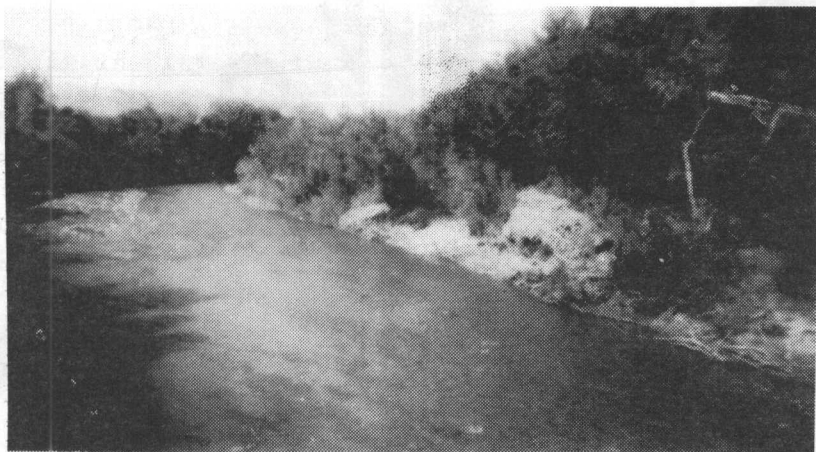
## 1963- The Dixie Project

The Rockville citizens were wide awake and progressive. In February they installed a 60,000 gallon water storage tank for culinary uses and laid a 4-inch pipe line connecting the homes in town.

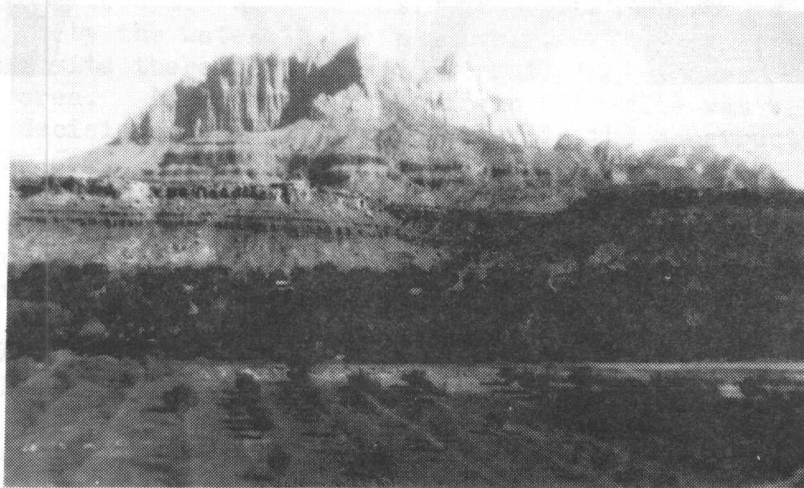
The farmers on the Virgin had another grievance against the new Secretary of Agriculture. They opposed the restriction against the planting of wheat a device to prevent surpluses and falling prices. The Virgin farmers wanted to plant as much wheat as limited lands permitted. The Secretary warned wheat farmers that excessive planting would increase surpluses and decrease their income. But the Rockville farmers objected. The government ordered that a referendum be taken to test farmer's sentiment. Nationally, the plan was disapproved. Utah voters rejected the proposition 1213 to 2,000. Utahns had doubts. If the plan had been approved, they speculated, they feared restrictions would be put on livestock, milk, poultry and crops. The vote vindicated Benson. Utah farmers were opposed to all controls.

For many years the Dixie project had been on ice because the waters of the Virgin had been tied to the lower basin. Finally, the legal snarl between Arizona and California was resolved, June, 1963. The U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision favoring Arizona's position. That decision freed the waters of the Virgin from the claws of the California robbers. This action cleared the decks for the Dixie reclamation to start moving in Congress. This enabled the Dixie project to come alive. Senator Moss began the negotiations in the Senate.

The Kennedy assassination shocked the people of Rockville. It was the first presidential assassination since 1901. Lincoln, McKinley and Kennedy belonged to the ages.



The Virgin River - How many times has this river been mentioned in this history ?



A view of Rockville from the south hills. The houses are hid among the trees. The most beautiful village in all Utah.





The family of :

Bishop Afton Ballard :

Top : Larry Ballard, Kenneth, Teresa, Bruce and Murray  
Wright.

Sitting : Mrs. Nellie Joy Hardy Ballard, Tony (on lap),  
Bishop Afton Ballard, Mrs Annie W. Ballard,  
Mrs Karen B. Wright, Valeri Wright (in arms),  
Front : Sheri, Keri and Monica Wright.

( See page 219)



## 1964 - A Dam is Vetoed

In 1963 a government engineer selected a dam site near Virgin City for the proposed Dixie Project. Legislation to create the under-taking made progress in 1964. A hearing was held in St. George, June 25 which favorably recommended the legislation. August 26 the House passed the 42-million project. Later, September 2, President Johnson signed the bill into law. That inspired the people of Dixie to celebrate. The proposed reservoir would have a storage capacity of 246,000 acre feet. Its power potential had a capacity of 5,600 kilowatts. A canal 26 miles long could deliver enough water to irrigate 7,885 acres.

Late in the year prospects for the project were encouraging. Suddenly the whole dream caved in. The geological engineers reported their findings. They discovered faulty rock formations below the surface, which they warned, made construction of a dam very hazardous. The rocks which would be used to construct the dam, were too weak to resist the great pressure created by the water in the reservoir. Their rejection of the site therefore, killed the building of a dam in that area. Accordingly, the Virgin City site was vetoed. This decision caused a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  year delay in the construction of the dam.

The political campaign on the Virgin got an early start. A Republican convention was held in St George, February 24 in which Marvin Terry and Heber Hirschi were Rockville's delegates.

Mass meetings were held in every town, April 27. In Rockville, the Republicans met at the home of Marvin Terry. The Democrats held its meeting at the home of Alice Ballard. June 18, Helen Excell, representing the three upper Virgin towns, was chosen a delegate to the State Convention, held in Salt Lake City, June 12.

In the election, Rockville gave every Republican a generous majority except Clinton Snow. Springdale and Virgin were more skeptical.

The 1964 election returns :

	Goldwater-R	Johnson-D	Melich-R	Rampton-D	Wilkinson-R	Moss-D	Burton-R	Bruhn-D	Snow-R	Squire-D	Cox-R	Bentley-D
Rockville	48	12	37	21	37	20	48	11	20	38	37	15
Springdale	81	63	76	62	60	80	93	45	43	100	62	65
Virgin	33	24	37	19	13	45	39	16	8	48	29	24
Wash. Co.	2534	1789	2337	1924	2041	2237	2793	1457	2009	2277	2196	1865
Utah .....	181,785	219,628	171,300	226,956	169,562	227,822	75,986	59,768				

The vote for the two amendments, Rockville approved both of them.

Election day in 1964 was one of hilarity among the Democrats and a day of infamy for the Republicans. A tidal wave of votes swept the Democrats into power and the Republicans into oblivion. A national wave of sympathy for the assassinated President and his mission was inherited by the Johnson candidacy and spread to all state campaigns. The fever struck Utah with a vengeance. The avalanche affected all state and county candidates except in Rockville. Another exception was Laurence Burton, the lone Republican victor. " Politics makes jokers out of all of us."

## 1965 - A Phony War

In 1965, five boys from Utah were killed in the Vietnam war. The issue in the 1964 presidential campaign had been : " How should the war be ended ?" Goldwater had demanded that North Vietnam be left in ashes, that he said would force her to cry for mercy. If Goldwater had won the election, the war would have been ended by April, 1965. These tactics sounded too cruel to Johnson, he proposed instead, a soft war that treated the North gently. "Treat them with kindness", said he, "and they will ask for peace." That was Johnson's strategy as 1965 arrived.

Early in February, the North Vietnam accepted Johnson's soft policy by waging a major attack on South Vietnam. Johnson responded by ordering air attacks on war installations in the north. These attacks were too feeble to convince the North to surrender, instead it made them more angry. Johnson's soft policy proved fatal. Johnson's weakness encouraged the North to strike harder and with greater success.

Meanwhile our American boys continued to suffer ever greater casualties while Johnson's phony war continued. Johnson could have avoided this disaster by leaving the North in ashes. But no, he preferred to see the poor boys die. Which candidate should the American voter have chosen in 1964 ? The majority chose the wrong candidate. Too bad, Teddy Roosevelt was not our President!

The Legislature of Utah, unlike Johnson, had the courage to reapportion the legislature. This action returned Utah to the principle of one man, one vote in representation. Utah's rural legislators since 1931 had prevented true democracy to function by their immoral insistence on rural domination in the legislature.

In February the Washington County News issued some interesting statistics about Rockville. First the Mormon population averaged around 98 to 102. Add 6 non-Mormons and the total population will be 106. Rockville has 10 vacant homes. Twelve homes had one person, 12 with three persons and 9 had 2 persons. The town has 100 acres of good farming lands under cultivation. Its citizens owned

## History of Rockville

50 automobiles and 10 farm tractors. The average mean temperature in the winter was from 45 to 61. In summer, the mean temperature was 90.

In 1868, the names of those original pioneers who then lived in Rockville, nine of whom, did not live in Rockville in 1965. Those nine were : the Smiths, Drapers, Stouts, Hansons, Dennetts, Halls, Slaughters, Pettys and Jennings. Of these original pioneers, at least five were still living in Rockville, namely, Cox, DeMilles, Dalton, Terry, and Hirschi.

The most speculator character to ever live in Rockville was : "Joe" Hirschi, 1865-1941, son of Gottlieb Hirschi, famous Bishop, a bachelor and a bronco buster. He even loved children. He was the wildest, toughest, roughest cowboy that ever lived in Dixie. He was Dixie's top bronco buster. Once while roping a wild horse, his thumb was caught in the rope and was pulled off. He quickly put it back on, but inadvertently put it back on-back-wards- it fell off again so he put it in his pocket as a souvenir.

A site for the new dam on the Virgin river was finally agreed to(November 20), 8 miles down stream from Virgin City, near Hurricane.

The weather in 1965 was rough. First, May 8, a heavy frost killed all the fruit. But that was not enough, another frost came September 19, killing all the tomatoes. To complete the erratic season, the rains began November 18 and continued for nine days. The Virgin over flowed and caused the usual damages to roads and canals.

## 1966 - All Amendments Defeated

All students of Utah's Constitution recognized it had many defects. The document was weak, clumsy and unadjustable to modern political machinery. Cognizant of the defects, the people of Utah had, during its first 69 years, attempted to reform its constitution 84 times by proposing amendments, 48 of these attempts were successful.

Accordingly, in a special session held in May, the Legislature proposed eight amendments aimed at correcting defects in the constitution. Public opinion also demanded that the constitution be completely revised by a newly elected convention. The election of 1966 resolved all of the proposed amendments by defeating all eight of them. That was only half the story. The Republicans made a clean sweep of the election winning both congressional seats and a large majority in the 1967 legislature. Rockville contributed to this victory by approving most of the Republican candidates and by voting against all eight amendments.

A dispatch from Washington, May 12, reported that the Dixie Project had been combined with the Central Arizona Project (May 9 ) and that committee hearings were in progress.

The upper Virgin Valley was richly favored by the presence of four midwives who rendered valuable services to the three communities. Their Names : Mrs Stanworth of Grafton; Rebecca Dennett and Phebe C. Terry of Rockville and Ella Gifford of Springdale. These angels of mercy aided the people to achieve health and happiness.

The voters of Rockville gave all Republican candidates generous majorities.

1966 Election Returns :

# History of Rockville

	Lloyd-R	King-D	Leavitt-R	Squire-D	Cox-R	Ackin-D
.....						
Rockville	46	7	28	27	41	15
Springdale	87	36	46	76	42	77
Virgin	36	10	12	35	31	14
Wash.Co. ...	2911	1070	2191	1788	2624	1309
Utah .....	96,426	61001				
.....						

During the school year, 1966-67, Rockville had 4 young people attending different colleges, they were :  
 Condie and Evelyn Hirschi, Ellen DeMille, and Ralph Dickman, Jr.

December 16, a major rain storm struck the Rockville area, causing a great flood in the river, did \$8,000 in damages to canals and highways.

## 1967 \_ A Lost Cause

If the military in Vietnam had been given complete authority to conduct the war properly, victory would have been achieved by the end of 1967. But no, Johnson would not give the military a free hand. As a consequence, America lost the war. Johnson did not want a military decision, he preferred to conduct his own phony war. By the end of 1966, 30,000 Americans had died, all due to Johnson's phony war ideas. America should have rose up in horror and impeached Johnson. His phony war proved to be America's greatest disaster.

Johnson's false war psychology affected politics in Utah. His animosity toward peace poisoned the political atmosphere all over America, in Utah it caused a conflict between the legislature and the governor. Strife and unrest resulted. Turbulence in political circles was annoying. Governor Rampton shouted in public that the 37 House members were "unbelievably bad." This caused a sensation all over the state except in Rockville where the people continued milking their cows as though Rampton never existed. The Virgin villagers knew nothing and cared less about Sunday laws that prohibit work. These farmers watered their corn and wheat on Sundays in defiance of anti-Sabbath labor laws. The people in that valley were bored by threats that Utah was sinking into a recession. The copper strike in July did not frighten the peaceful inhabitants in the Virgin Valley they were too busy irrigating their farms.

The Virgin residents were vitally interested in the Arizona Project legislation then being processed in Congress. The great debate in the Senate to create a satisfactory act was long and bitter. The Senate finally passed the legislation August 7 and sent it on to the House who played with the problem the rest of the year. Some claimed the bill was against the interests of Utah. Senator Bennett proposed amendments which would make the act more suitable to Utah.



## History of Rockville

In July a recession haunted the business world in Utah but these ghosts of despair did not frighten the farmers on the Virgin who were too busy to be annoyed.

Rockville did have its problems. For the third time in three years, a killing frost killed the fruit. This was more vexing than a recession or a depression.

### 1968 - That Dixie Dam

Utah was haunted by three vexing problems as 1968 was ushered in. First the copper strike was a serious calamity, the Vietnam war was catastrophe, and lastly, the Dixie project had the highest priority.

President Johnson, a stooge of the labor bosses, was too weak to use the Taft-Hartley act and end the strike. He preferred to see the economy of four states destroyed rather than offend the unions. As the year began, the agony had lasted 170 days. The strike had cost Utah's economy \$94,742,000. Still Johnson sat motionless, too weak to make any move.

President Johnson had failed to win the phony war from his office in the White House so he announced he would not be a candidate for re-election. He had been too weak to end the war, as Truman had done in 1945, so Johnson and his foolish ideas died a natural death.

The Dixie Project was another story. After resolving many problems, the Arizona Central Project was approved, September 5. The Dixie Project which was an internal part of the Arizona Project, was also included in the legislation.

Rockville citizens were active in politics during the year. May 27, the Republicans in the three towns, held mass meetings.

June 23, Bishop Alma J. Cox, who had been serving for ten years, was released. His successor, Lawrence F. Runnels was appointed to replace him. His two Counselors

1968 - That Dixie Dam

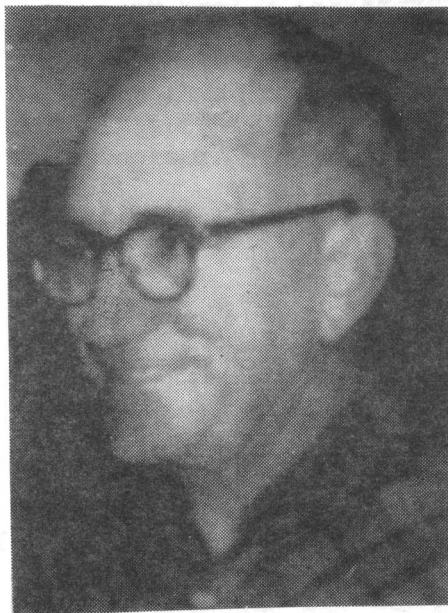
were Cleone Sanders and Afton Ballard.

During the year, J.R. Madsen was appointed Bishop of Springdale.

Washington County went Republican except in the gubernatorial race. The results :

	Nixon-R	Humphrey-D	Wallace-I.	Bennett-R	Weilenmann-D	Buehner-R	Rampton-D	Lloyd-R	Ross-D	Leavitt-R	Snow-D	Atkin-R	Bentley-D
.....													
Rockville	55	10	6	48	19	38	31	59	12	49	17	48	19
Springdale	78	40	17	85	50	47	89	95	39	75	59		
Virgin	46	13	14	58	14	44	31	56	15	49	23		
Wash. Co.													
	3226	975	796	3279	1630	2282	2697	3810	1044	2506	2115	3241	1657
Utah .....													
	238,728	156,665	26,906	225,075	192,168	131,729	289,283	130,127	80,948				
.....													

The liquor initiative was disapproved by Washington County by a vote of 639 for and 4,235 against.



LAWRENCE RUNNELS  
Rockville's Twelfth Bishop  
1968-

Born March 6, 1913.  
Married June 12, 1935 to

Letha Leone Nichols  
Born June 19, 1911.

One Child :  
Edna Leone, b. January 14, 1937, m . February 15, 1958 to  
Earl W. Casmer.

Counselors to Bishop Runnels :

First C. Cleone Sanders, 1968- June 22, 1969.  
Floyd Leon Lewis, 1969-

Second C. Afton Ballard, 1968-

## 1969 - Too Soft to Fight

Rockville's Centennial failed to be celebrated in 1962, but she was able to join in celebrating Utah's two Centennials in 1969. The wedding of the rails, May 10, 1869 at Promontary Point, and the exploits of John Wesley Powell down the Colorado River in May, 1869 were genuinely appreciated by the people living on the Virgin river.

The contact between the hammer and spike which sent a "sound out over the wires" was the first "broad cast" ever dispatched from coast to coast. Naturally the people in Rockville did not receive this dispatch, but later when informed, they were thrilled by its significance. At that time Rockville was only a seven year old village. One-hundred years later, Rockville was thoroughly orientated.

When the Powell party completed its hazardous mission, at a point where Lake Powell (named for him) is now located, the Colorado river is joined by a small stream, the notorious Virgin, which came out of the north desert, which suggested to Powell, it might originate in Wyoming too. His party decided to follow up the river since its direction was from the north. How far he followed the stream is a mystery. If he reached a point now known as LaVerkin, he was forced to make a decision. Either he continue up the Virgin passed Shunesburg and Long Valley or follow Ash creek, passing Cedar City and Fillmore, no one knows.

Returning to our 1969 story, the Salt Lake area was plagued by a pack of stupid protestors, inspired by the communists, who were crying and begging Nixon to bring our boys home from Vietnam - "Now". It was "Moratorium Day", the biggest protest yet waged against the war. From Logan to Cedar City (Rockville escaped the plague) the mobs ranted. These hysterical fanatics sat down and wept openly in an attempt to end the war "NOW." War was declared between the noisy minority and the silent majority. These noisy "snobs" were giving aid and comfort to the North Vietnam who were convinced the Americans were ready to surrender. This cowardly conduct proved to Hanoi that she must not ask

## History of Rockville

for peace terms from such a weak nation. The demonstrations gave Hanoi all the proof she needed that America was too soft to continue the fight.

In Rockville the noisy snobs did not exist. Instead, the silentmajority was in complete control.

June 22, Cleone Sanders was released from the bishopric. In his place, Floyd Leon Lewis was assigned.

The citizens on the Virgin were deeply moved by the exploits of the six Astronauts who made the two trips to the moon, defied the gravitation of the earth, traveled 240,000 miles, then soft-landed on the moon which has no oxygen. To return to earth, these moon walkers had to defy the moon's gravitation, lift up and fly back to earth, a greater miracle than Christ's walking on the water. Next the Astronauts will be turning rocks into bread.

When this writer was in Rockville in 1969, he was disturbed by the rumor that the Rockville Ward organization was to be discontinued and all members to be transferred to the Springdale ward. Many in Rockville were highly disturbed by this report. Obviously, this report died of natural causes.

## 1970 - No Vote, No Fight

The young men of Rockville had for 53 years been unjustly treated by their government. These teen-agers during two world wars were drafted into the service and were expected to put their lives on the alter to die if need be for their country. If they refused, it meant prison or death. These same young men were told that they were too young and immature to vote. This prohibition was rejected by these teen-agers as out-ragious and imprudent. The victims of this infamy were drafted inspite of their protests. These protestors in agony, shouted : " If I'm too young to vote, I'm also too young

# 1970 - No Vote, No Fight

to die for my country." In stronger language he shouted :  
 " If I cannot vote, I won't fight." That was a challenge  
 the government was too weak to meet. Any fool could  
 vote in an election but that same fool would chicken out  
 if he faced death in a crucial struggle. In spite of  
 these inconsistencies, the teen-agers in Rockville con-  
 tinued to be drafted. No greater injustice could be  
 committed by any government.

The Republicans of Rockville held a mass meeting  
 May 18, to elect a delegate to the county convention,  
 June 6. On that occasion, the convention chose Glen  
 Steed of Rockville as a delegate to the State Convention  
 in Salt Lake, July 11.

The U.S. Census for 1970 gave Utah a million inhab-  
 itants for the first time in her history.

The census for Dixie towns :

Rockville, 110; Springdale, 172 ; Virgin, 119 ;  
 St. George, 7,097 ; Hurricane, 1,406 ; Washington County,  
 13,703 ; Utah, 1,060,631.

Election Returns for 1970 :

Burton-R	Moss-D	Lloyd-R	Nance-D	Atkin-R	Arken-D
----------	--------	---------	---------	---------	---------

.....

Rockville	47	14	55	5	44	15
Springdale	62	59	83	43	63	63
Virgin	31	14	37	8	32	12

Wash. Co.

2742	1928	3316	1275	3399	1199
------	------	------	------	------	------

Utah - 159,004,210,207, 97,549, 87,000

Rockville approved all three amendments.



## 1971 - Teen-Agers Franchised

The teen-agers of Rockville were finally given the vote. No longer were they expected to fight for their country and be denied the natural rights of citizenship. Their protests in 1970 had paid off. "No vote, no fight", was changed to vote and fight.

Congress did its part by proposing a constitutional amendment which was ratified by the necessary number of states. This gave all teen-agers the vote in federal elections.

The Legislature of Utah in a special session in August passed legislation giving the 18-year-olds the vote which was signed by the governor, August 13. The teen-agers of Rockville had finally won their rights as full citizens of America.

Utah was still in conflict with her own constitution. Her legislature was still unapportioned which was a violation of the constitution. In 1965, as we noted above, Utah had enacted a fair reapportionment act which gave the counties representation (nearly according to population). This apportionment was based on the 1960 census. Ten years later (1970), Utah's population centers had shifted. One man one vote ideal was no longer true in the Legislature of 1971. Instead, it was 150% off balance. The legislators in the 1971 session did their best to write a true bill that would give each county its true representation. Instead, the bill they finally passed showed a deviation of 39% of the one man, one vote ideal. Would the courts approve of the new legislation? Many speculated they would not.

The Washington County Planning Committee held a hearing in Rockville, March 10 to give the people an opportunity to voice their views regarding the roads being built up the valley. Of vital importance was the location of the main road 15 to Zion Park. Should the road be built on the south side of the river or use the



1971 - Teen-Agers Franchised

main street of Rockville ? There was no doubt where the Rockville people stood.

These rocky citizens had other grievances against the state. Until 1971, the speed limit in the city was 30 miles. The Road Commission changed it to 40 miles. This infuriated the people. This change created greater liabilities for accidents.

June 26, the Rockville ward was honored when 75% of its Aaronic members were awarded achievement metals.

Roster of Ward Officers :

September 12, 1971

Bishopric

Lawrence F. Runnels,	Bishop
Floyd Leon Lewis,	First C
Afton Ballard,	Second C
Ira Guy DeMille,	Clerk

.....

Relief Society

Dorothy H. Sanders,	President
Evelyn L. Hirschi,	First C
Patricia B. Davison,	Second C

.....

Sunday School

Donald E. Demille,	Supt.
Wendell G. Seegmiller,	Lst
D. Alma Hirschi,	2nd.

.....

M.I.A.

Alma J. Cox,	President
--------------	-----------

.....

## History of Rockville

### Y.W.M.I.A

Mary Jane DeMille, President  
Letha Runnels,

.....

### Primary

Warda H. Lewis, President  
Nellie Ballard, First C.  
Angela H. Cox, Second C.

.....

### Absent on Missions :

Kent W. Seegmiller, Korea.  
Tristan DeMille, Indiana  
Steven Dickman, Argentina

.....

## 1972 - A New World for Rockville

Rockville reached her 110th birthday in February. With a population of 100 she was on her way to fame. If Noah could re-populate the earth with only 8 souls to start, what would be the out-come of Rockville's 100 persons in ages to come ?

Rockville's fame was soon to be recognized by the history lovers of Utah. Just one hundred and ten years after Rockville's founding, the Utah State Register of Historical Sites selected a famous building in Rockville, February 23, as a worthy object of veneration. The building, a two story structure made from red sandstone, was built in 1864 by Edward Hyber. On the west end of the building, a small office, 19x12 was built in 1870

## 1972 - A New World for Rockville

and used as a telegraph office and a post office till 1903. Huber sold the house to David F. Stout in 1883, who, in 1897 sold it to the DeMille family. Later, Glen W. Steed, purchased the home and is the present owner.

Rockville was still deeply interested in the Dixie Project even though its benefits were of doubtful value to the upper valley. Since the damsite at Virgin City was ruled out in 1964, Congress was pressured to re-authorize funds in 1968 for the new project to be located south-east of the town of Washington costing \$58 million. The Warner Valley proposed Dam would be 250 feet high and have a reservoir capacity of 90,000 acre feet (March, 30).

Hope was resurrected June 22 when the Senate Committee voted \$500,000 to start construction on the Dixie reclamation project, but final actions were not completed. June 27 the Senate again appropriated the same amount but no further decisions were made.

Finally, August 7, a Senate-House Conference committee voted to provide \$200,000 for planning money for the Dixie Reclamation Project to be used in 1972. Senator Moss was angry by these stalling tactics. The project had already been planned to death. That meant that no more money could be appropriated till 1973.

The upper Virgin towns suffered from two extremes during the first months of 1972. First a serious drouth developed during the first five months, then on June 22 a vicious rain and hail storm hit the area. At Rockville, hail came down in large sizes that knocked all the leaves off the trees and destroyed the gardens. The storm was even worse up in Zion canyon.

In 1862 when this history began, a list of the original settlers were given. Now in 1972, as this history ends, a final list of the residents who live in Rockville in August, 1972, is hereby given. The date after the name is the year the resident was born, if known.

The 1972 Roster of Rockville Residents

Afton Ballard, 1897  
Mrs. Annie Worthen Ballard, 1897.

Mrs. Alice Harmon Ballard, 1898  
Widow of David Waldon Ballard

Edwin Ballard, 1907  
Mrs. Daisy Jennings Ballard, 1913  
Children :  
Lynn, 1939, Lila, 1945.

Larry Afton Ballard, 1934  
Mrs. Nellie Hardy Ballard, 1931  
Children :  
Tressa, 1954; Bruce L. 1956,  
Kenneth A., 1959, Tonny, 1965.

Mrs. Ida Bodine , 1910 ?  
Widow of Henry Leo Bodine.

Alma J. Cox, 1916  
Mrs. Angeletta Howard Cox, 1920.  
Children :  
Jackie, 1956 ; Sandra, 1956.  
Tracy, 1957, Steven, 1958,  
Laurie, 1960.

Arthur Cox, 1893,  
Widower.

Julius O. Cox , 1907  
Mrs. Geneva Russell Cox, 1910 ?

Arthur Dalton, 1896  
Widower.

.....

Mrs. Hazel M. Dalton, 1911  
Widow of Jacob

.....

Robert W. Davison, 1928  
Mrs. Patricia Berrett Davison, 1928  
Children :  
Michael, 1950, Brenda, 1952  
Shelley, 1956, Kelley, 1956  
Shevn, 1967.

.....

Ordell DeMille, 1922  
Mrs Mary Jane Crofts DeMille, 1926  
Children :  
Eilee, 1945; Ellen, 1947; Linda, 1952;  
Diane, 1953; Dwight, 1955; Marianne, 1956;  
Kerry, 1960.

.....

Donald E. DeMille, 1923  
Mrs. Alta Sorensen DeMille, 1925 ?  
Children :  
Dianna, 1957; Shilbene, 1959

.....

Mrs. Flora Dennett DeMille, 1896  
Widow of Artimus

.....

Floyd H. DeMille, 1913  
Mrs. Vilo Jones DeMille, 1915.

.....

Mrs. Geneva Dalton DeMille, 1891  
Widow of Hyrum.

.....

Ira Guy DeMille, 1897  
Mrs Ethel Sanders DeMille, 1901.  
.....

June DeMille, 1912.  
Mrs. Roma Terry DeMille, 1915 ?  
.....

Mrs. Mary Hirschi DeMille, 1895  
Widow of Perry  
.....

Ralph E. Dickman, 1922  
Mrs. Larime Newman Dickman, 1927  
Child :  
Bruce, 1957.  
.....

Mrs. Eleanor Ward Gifford, 1881  
Widow of William  
.....

Todd Edward Hansen , ???  
Mrs. Arlene Reusch Hansen. ??  
.....

Daniel Alma Hirschi , 1898  
Mrs. Myrtle Dalton Hirschi, 1900  
.....

Mrs. Evelyn Langston Hirschi, 1896.  
Widow of Heber  
.....

George Hirschi, 1896  
Mrs. Rachel DeMille Hirschi, 1896

Mrs. Gertrude Terry Hirschi, 1898  
Widow of Henry

.....

Joseph Dewey Hirschi, 1902  
Mrs. Fern Stratton Hirschi, 1905

.....

Mrs. Ruth Price Howard, 1897  
Widow of Thomas

.....

Mrs. Nora Lester Jones, ?  
Widow of Herald

.....

Lang Leihsher, ??  
Mrs. Marion Terry Leihsher, ??  
Children :  
Lee Terry, 1960, Kim, 1961  
David, 1963, Lang, 1964.

.....

Floyd Leon Lewis, 1935  
Mrs. Warda Ann Hirschi Lewis, 1936  
Children :  
Vickie, 1960, Vauna, 1963  
Rocky, 1965, Vanita, 1967.

.....

Virgil Millett, 1897  
Widower

.....

Wendell C. Olsen, 1904  
Mrs. Lilliam Taylor Olsen, 1911  
(August, 1972 - moved to St George)



Kenneth Palmer , 1921  
Mrs. Tina Shepherd Palmer, ? ?  
.....

Walter F. Pettie, 1912  
Mrs. Jessie Stone Pettie, ?  
.....

Bishop Lawrence Runnels, 1913  
Mrs. Letha Nichols Runnels, 1911  
.....

Cleon Sanders, 1903  
Mrs. Dorothy Hill Sanders, 1915  
.....

Burton L. Sant, 1942  
Mrs. Anna Gifford Sant, 1944.  
Child :  
Burton, 1971.  
.....

Wendell G. Seegmiller, 1922  
Mrs. Lorraine Wimmer Seegmiller, 1927  
Children :  
Kent, ? , Lenney, ? , Gayle, ?  
.....

Glen Steed, 1896  
Mrs. Della McCune Steed, 1895  
.....

Mrs. Clara Dalton Stevens, 1890  
Widow of Nephi  
.....

Marvin Terry, 1891  
Mrs. Lamar Timothy Terry, 1892

Royal Terry, 1900  
Widower

.....

Non- Mormons

.....

Mrs. Virginia M. Groke

Widow of ?

Children :

Robert, ?, Richard, ? Karen, ?

.....

James Thompson, ?

Mrs. Louise Thompson, ?

.....

Clarence Todd, ?

Mrs. Edith Todd, ?

.....

Clealy Unruh, ?

Mrs. Gladys Unruh, ?

.....

Total 118.

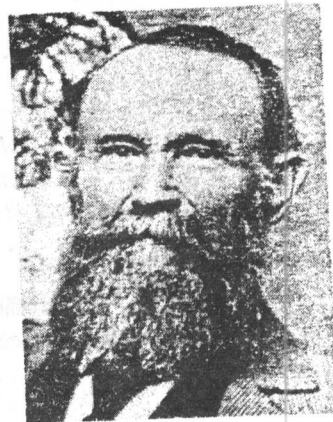
.....

(August, 1972, Mr and Mrs

David Myers, moved into  
Rockville. )

Also : Derrick Parker.

NEPHI JOHNSON

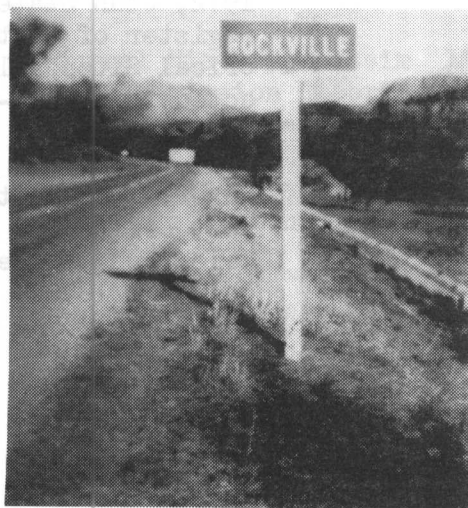


Nephi Johnson, the explorer of Zion Canyon, 1858. Born December 12, 1833 at Kirtland, Ohio. He became Utah's greatest discoverer. Brigham Young asked him to follow up the Virgin to find suitable lands for farming. He and his Indian guide passed the future Virgin City, Grafton, Rockville and up the stream to what became Springdale. He was the first to see the mighty "White Throne, the perpendicular canyon walls and drank from the famous spring of pure water. Up the narrow canyon 4 more miles to the future "Zion", a 5 acre lot, there the canyon walls were a few feet apart. The scenery was "out of this world". This was the center of the world.

In 1859, Johnson was appointed Presiding Elder of the Virgin Branch, a position he held nine years.

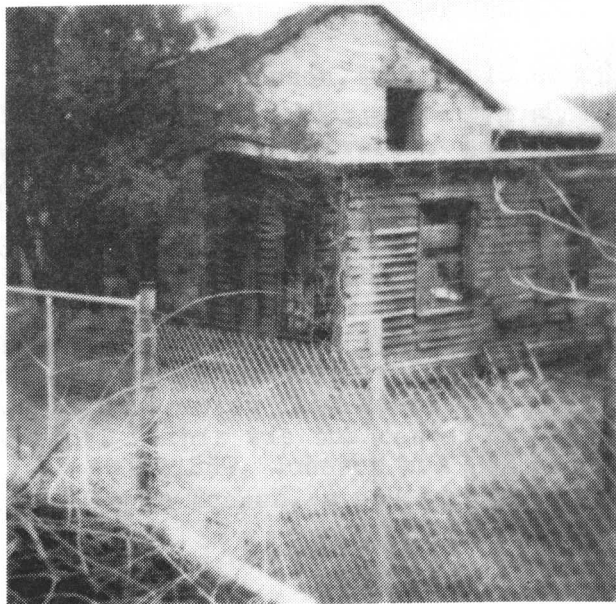
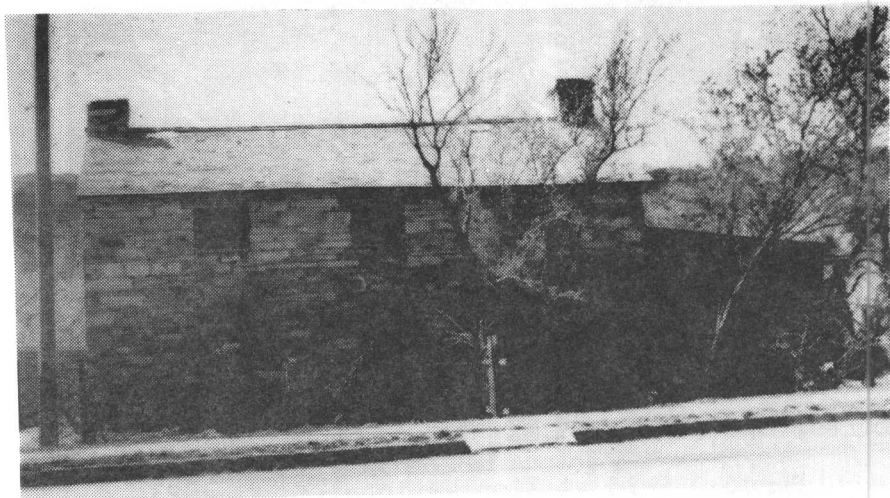


Martial Band at Zion National Park, 1923.  
President Harding's visit. Left to right : Freeborn  
Gifford, Hyrum Justet, Oliver Gifford and John Dennett.



The author arrives  
in Rockville, April 16,  
1972 to interview the  
residents for informat-  
ion for this book.

Entrance to Rock-  
ville from the west.



February 23,  
1972, Utah State  
Register of Hist-  
orical Sites sel-  
ected this build-  
ing. Built in  
1864 by Edward  
Huber. At left,  
Post office and  
Telegraph office,  
built in 1870.

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ROCKVILLE'S POST MASTERS

1862 - George Petty      Served a few weeks  
1862 to about 1880,    Post Masters unknown  
1880    Fanny Slaughter,    Dates unknown  
1880 to 1889,    Slaughter family in charge  
1889 - 1890,    Sarah L. Stout and family  
1890 to 1895,    Ellen R. Daley in charge  
1895 - 1912,    Phoebe D. Terry,    Post Master  
1912 - 1921,    Phoebe Farns Langston,  
1921 - 1965,    Evelyn L. Hirschi.  
1965 - Present,    Alma J. Cox

VIRGIN FLOODS and DROUTHS

January, 1861

December 25, 1861 to February 2, 1862

Floods in :

September, 1911; October. 1912 ; September, 1936

March, 1938 ; October - December, 1954 ; 1961, 1951,  
1967 , 1972.

.....

Drouths

From the St. George Weather Station, the years

which had the severest drouths were as follows :

1956 - 3.58	1942 - 6.39	1946 - 8.50
1953 - 3.93	1933 - 6.63	1954 - 8.97
1950 - 4.10	1938 - 6.99	1966 - 8.99
1934 - 5.39	1960 - 7.03	1949 - 9.04
1948 - 5.51	1944 - 7.05	1939 - 9.36
1947 - 5.62	1937 - 7.57	1931 - 9.42
1959 - 5.90	1945 - 7.87	1935 - 9.54
1955 - 6.10	1952 - 8.15	1936 - 9.68

ROCKVILLE SCHOOL TEACHERS  
1863-1955

1863-64, Samuel Kenner	1933-35, F.K. Slack
1864-69, Henry Jennings	Lilliam McFarlene
1866-67, Jubes Woodard	1936-38, A.B. Sullivan
1870-74, No record	Winnie Tabler
1875-1883, Henrietta Stout	1939-1940, No record
1884-1893, No record	1940-42, Grant Langston
1894-1897, James Duffin	Phoebe Lytle
1897-98, Henrietta Stout	Aileen Worthen
1899-02, No record	1942-43, A.B.Sullivan
1903-04, G.R.Bringhurst	Minnie Gardner
1905-06, No record	1943-45, A.B. Sullivan
1907-08, Bertie Crosby	Ethel Ballard
1908-10, Joseph Wilkinson	1945-46, Alice Ballard
Maude McAllester	Ethel Ballard
1911-12, Richard Tweedee	1946-47, No record
Bessie Rees	1947-48, Mrs Alice Ballard
1913-15, Edna Cragun	1948-49, No record
Josephine Spendlove	1949-52, No record
Bertha Robinson	1952-53, No record
1915-16, Walter Cottom	1953-55, Vida Lemmon
1916-23, Marvin Terry	1955, School closed
Annie Ballard	
Evelyn Worthen	
Eva Langston	
1924-25, Evelyn Hirschi	
1925-28, Elmer Graff	
Alice Ballard	
Ethel Pitts	
1929-30, No record	
1931-32, Antone Moody	
Arvilla Graff	

.....  
Two requests for the names of the Rockville school teachers were made to the Washington County School Board, but both were denied.



AMANDA MELVINA FISK

1832-1888

Resident of Rockville, 1868-1888

Her descendants in 1972 total about 10,000 persons in the mountain west. She is a descendant of William the Conqueror, 1027-1087, Alfred the Great, and Charlemagne, 768-814.

Her pedigree is as follows :

She was the daughter of Alfred Fisk, 1806-1834, who in 1831 married Mariah Sagers. He was the son of Hezekiah Fisk, 1775-1839, m. 1795 to Rhodah Walker, who was the son of Moses Fisk, 1733-1816, m. 1774 to Hulda Wilber, son of Hezekiah Fisk, 1704-1776, m. 1732 to Hannah Sterry, son of Benjamin Fisk, 1683-1715, m. 1701 to Abigail Bowen, son of Hannah Baldwin, b. November 20, 1663, m. 1681 to John Fisk, Hannah was the daughter of Mary Bruen, 1622-1670, m.

John Baldwin, she was the dau. of John Bruen, 1560-1625, m. 1596 to Anne Fox, son of Dorothy Halford, b. about 1540, m. John Bruen, Sr., son of Jane Booth, b. about 1535 to Sir Thomas Halford, Jane was dau. of

Sir William Booth, b. about 1472, d. 1519, m. Ellen Montgomery, son of

Sir George Booth, b. about 1445, d. 1483, m. Katherine Monfort, who was the son of

Maud de Dutton, b. about 1420, m. Sir William Booth, dau. of Margaret Savage, b. about 1400, m. 1418 to Sir John Dutton, Margarer was dau. of

Maud de Swynnerton, b. about 1380, d. 1450, m. Sir John Savage, Maud was dau of

Elizabeth Beke, b. about 1360, d. 1395, m. Sir Robert de Swynnerton, Elizabeth was dau. of

Joan de Stafford, b. about 1340, m. Sir Nicholas Beke, dau. of Ralph de Stafford, b. about 1325, d. 1410, m. Maud Hastings, son of Margaret de Stafford, about 1305, m. Sir John de Stafford, dau. of Margaret de Audley, b. about 1316, d. 1349, m. 1336 to Sir Ralph de Stafford, Margaret was dau. of Margaret de Clare, 1292-1342, m. Hugh de Audley, dau. of Joan Blantagenet, b. about 1272, d. 1307, m. 1290 to Sir Gilbert de Clare, Margaret was dau. of

King Edward I, 1239-1307, m. 1254 to Eleanor of Castile, dau. of Henry III, 1206-1272, m. Eleanor Berenger, son of John, 1166-1216, m. Isabella of Angonleme, son of Henry II, 1133-1189, m. 1152 to Eleanor of Aquitaine, son of Mathilde, 1102-1164, m. 1128 to Geoffrey Plantagenet, dau. of Henry I, 1070-1135, m. Matilde of Scotland, son of William I, the Conqueror, 1027-1087, m. 1053 to Matilde of Flanders, dau. of the Count of Flanders (Baldwin V), d. 1083.

William the Conqueror was not a descendant of Charlemagne nor of Alfred the Great, but his wife, Matilde, was. Her ancestry line to both men is identical for the first six generations to Baldwin II, Count of Flanders, who ruled from 879 to 918. The mother of Baldwin II was Judith, the dau.

of "Karl" (or Charles II, the Bold) who was the son of Louis the Pious, 814-849, the son of Charlemagne, 768-814.

In the Alfred line, we find this same Baldwin II married to Alfith, the dau. of Alfred the Great. This makes Baldwin II the king pen in this jumbile, his mother was a great grand dau. of Charlemagne while his wife, Alfith, was the dau. of Alfred the Great. The pedigree :

Mitilde, wife of William the Conqueror, was the dau. of Baldwin V, b. 1012, Count of Flanders, ruled from 1035 to 1067, son of

Baldwin IV, 980-1035, son of

Arnulf II, 965-988, son of

Baldwin iii, 940-962, son of

Arnulf I, 918-965, son of

Baldwin II, d. 918, ruled from 879-918, married Alfith, dau. of

Alfred the Great, 849-901.

.....

References : From Benjamin Fisk to Edward I,

See :

Adams, Arthur, "Living Descendants of Blood Royal", Vol. I, pp. 15-17.

From Edward I to Charlemagne and Alfred :

See :

Ency. Brit. Vol 9, pp 418, 419.



Rockville's Vital Records  
1866 - 1970

The first church census for Rockville was taken in 1866, listing 95 persons. If previous counts were taken they were lost. These 95 citizens included those in Rockville prior to the addition of the refugees from the other three towns resulting from the Indian troubles. After those new individuals arrived the population jumped to 430 persons. After their exodus in 1868, the population fell to about 100.

No statistics were kept in Rockville from 1868 to 1907. From 1907 to 1919 a complete record was kept. Beginning in 1920, the total population figures are missing until 1938. Henceforth, a complete record is kept.

During the years the Rockville clerks listed its members its total figures never agreed with the totals put out by the U.S. Census. Obviously, both could not be true. This writer has no confidence in the records kept by the Rockville clerks. They were incompetent and inefficient. As proof of this statement, these clerks failed to record one item relating to the family of David F. Stout who was a member of the Rockville ward from 1875 to 1897. Not once during this 22 year period did the clerks so much as mention by name one member of David's family. No births, deaths or marriages were ever recorded. We must therefore conclude that the vital records of Rockville's members were at least 50% inaccurate.

The U.S. Census records for the eleven counts between 1870 to 1970 follows : (The accuracy of the 1950 count is very much in doubt).

1870, 225; 1880, 232; 1890, 194; 1900, 214;  
1910, 189; 1920, 208; 1930, 251; 1940, 307; 1950, 453;  
1960, 110; 1970, 110.

Beginning in 1938, the Rockville records are hopefully, complete :

Year	Births	Marriages	Deaths	Total Members
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1907	12	1	2	246
1908	13	6	8	243
1909	7	7	0	?
1910	5	4	3	318
1911	16	17	5	269
1912	7	5	1	281
1913	9	3	2	249
1914	7	5	3	223
1915	9	1	1	224
1916	6	1	1	270
1917	10	1	5	339
1918	11	5	1	333
1919	5	2	0	334
1920	17	2	1	
1921	7	2	3	
1922	13	10	5	
1923	12	4	1	
1924	11	1	4	
1925	5	2	3	
1926	9	2	1	
1927	6	3	2	
1928	10	7	5	
1929	12	11	1	
1930	22	7	3	
1931	5	7	3	
1932	14	5	1	
1933	17	3	1	
1934	18	7	7	
1935	15	2	5	
1936	12	4	2	
1937	6	4	1	
1938	7	2	3	377
1939	10	1	1	275
1940	6	3	1	263
1941	3	5	4	280
1942	4	6	1	267
1943	3	7	3	213

Year	Births	Marriages	Deaths	Total Members
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1944	8	8	3	207
1945	6	4	2	233
1946	5	6	2	207
1947	6	6	1	181
1948	8	4	1	172
1949	5	5	3	168
1950	3	3	2	159
1951	9	14	2	149
1952	8	8	2	131
1953	3	6	4	130
1954	5	4	0	125
1955	3	4	5	111
1956	5	4	4	104
1957	10	0	2	112
1958	12	0	0	120
1959	3	5	0	118
1960	2	1	2	115
1961	3	0	1	102
1962	2	1	2	105
1963	3	1	0	100
1964	3	1	1	94
1965	4	2	0	101
1966	3	1	0	98
1967	2	2	1	100
1968	0	3	2	102
1969	3	1	7	98
1970				102
1971				
1972				

ELDERS AND BISHOPS OF GRAFTON

Elder

Nathan C. Tenney, 1859 - December 13, 1861

Bishop

Franklin W. Young, December 13, 1861 - Nov. 15, 1862

Anson P. Winsor, November 15, 1862 - 1866.

1866 - 1868 - Indian War

Elder

Alonzo H. Russell, May, 1868 - 1877

Bishop

Alonzo H. Russell, 1877 - 1887

James M. Ballard, Nov. 27, 1887 to Sept. 5, 1900

William Isom, Sept. 5, 1900 to 1903

James M. Ballard, 1903 to May 17, 1907

November 11, 1907 - Ward disorganized

Elder

James N. Stanworth, Nov. 11, 1907 to Dec. 6, 1919

Philetus Jones, Dec. 6, 1919 to Oct. 30, 1921

October 30, 1921 - Branch Disorganized.

SHONESBURG BRANCH ELDERS

1862 - George Petty and Oliver DeMille

Henry Stevens - 1862-1866

1866 - 1868 - Indian War

John J. Allred - May, 1868 to June, 1868

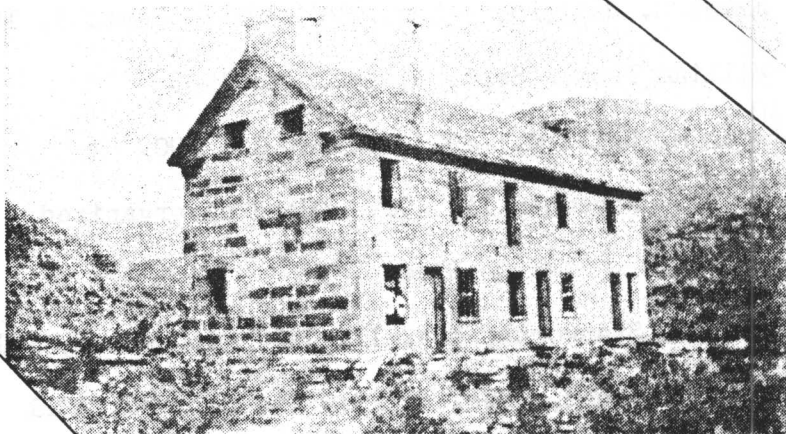
Samuel K. Gifford, June, 1868 to 1871

Walter Stringham, - 1871 - 1874

Oliver DeMille, - 1874 - 1889

Oscar DeMille, - 1889 - 1893

1893 - Branch Disorganized



Residence of Oliver De Mill, Shonesburg, Utah

ELDERS AND BISHOPS OF SPRINGDALE

Elders

Albert Petty,	1862 - 1869.
Zemira Palmer,	1869 - 1876
Evan M. Green	1876 - 1879
Edward Hepworth	1879 - 1881
Squire Hepworth	1881 - 1887

Bishops

William R. Crawford	1887 - 1894
Oliver D. Gifford	1894 - 1913
Thornton Hepworth	1913 - 1926
Daniel Crawford	1926 - 1931
Alvin C. Hardy	1931 - 1947
Julius V. Madsen	1947 - 1952
Daniel Winter	1952 - 1961
Howard Ruesch	1961 - 1962
Alvin C. Hardy	1962 - 1968
Julius R. Madsen	1968 - ?

ELDERS AND BISHOPS OF VIRGIN CITY

Elder

Nephi Johnson,	1859 - 1868
----------------	-------------

Bishops

John Parker,	1868 - 1886
Leroy W. Beebe,	1886 - 1905
Samuel Isom	1905 - 1907
James Jeppson	1907 - 1910

Ward Disorganized

Branch of Hurricane

1910 -1916

Bishops

Samuel S. Bradshaw	1916 - 1917
Sylvester Earl	1917 - 1928
Alma E. Flanigan	1928 - 1945
Russell B. Cornelius	1945 - 1947
Bertrand Ruesch	1947 - 1955
William D. Matthews	1955 - 1964
Duward Spendlove	1964 - 1969
William D. Matthews	1970 - 1971
Silas Lee Wilcox	1971 -



VIRGIN VALLEY LEADERS

- 290 John Langston
- 291 Clarinda Phillips Langston and Progeny
- 292 Jacob H. Langston and Family
- 293 Samuel K. Gifford and Son
- 294 John H. and Charlotte P. Ballard
- 295 William Black and Sons
- 296 James P. Terry and Progeny
- 297 Children of James P. Terry
- 298 Allen J. Stout and Progeny
- 299 Oliver DeMille and Family
- 300 William R. Crawford and Family
- 301 John Charles Hall
- 302 John F. and Rebecca Dennett
- 303 Children of John F. Dennett
- 304 Marion and Mary C. Stout



JOHN LANGSTON

Born March 8, 1822

Clarinda Phillips

Died December 3, 1882

Born Jan. 19, 1829

Died August 28, 1908

Married September 5, 1844 to:

Dau. of Israel

Children :

John F., b. 1852, d. 1910, m. April 27, 1892 to S. A. Morris  
Clarinda, b. 1857, d. 1906, m. Mar. 25, 1872 to H.F. Stout  
Mary, b. 1859, d. 1938, m. Mar. 7, 1872 to Alfred F. Stout  
Isaac, b. 1860, d. 1939, m. Dec. 23, 1885 to Rozelph Dalton  
Jacob, b. 1863, d. 1930, m. Oct. 1, 1884 to Alice Hall  
Alice, b. 1865, d. 1936, m. April 7, 1880 to Neuman Brown  
Laura, b. 1869, d. 1917, m. May 27, 1885 to Brigham Dalton  
William, b. 1872, d. 1940, m. Nov. 17, 1890 to Phebe Farnes



Family of John and Clarinda Phillips Langston

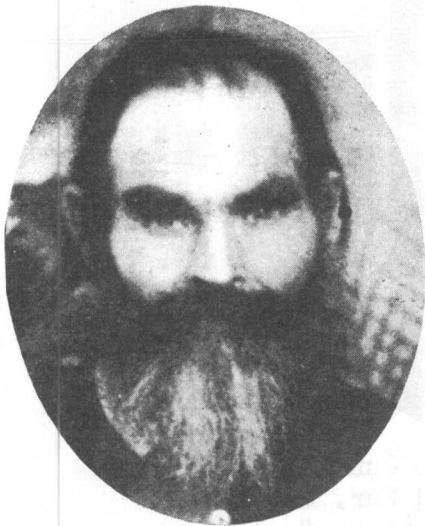
Top : Jacob            Alice            William R.

Seated : Mary, Clarinda, Laura,    Clarinda Phillips

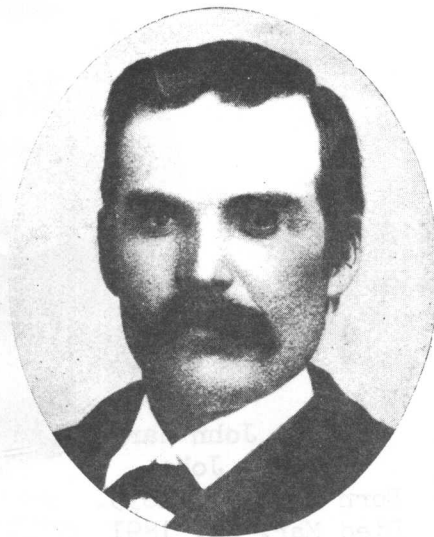
Langston (mother), and Bishop John F.  
Langston.



Jacob H. Langston and Family  
Top : Ella (b.1889,d. 1953,m.1912), Maud (b.1885,d. 1949,m 1906),  
Alma,(b. 1887,d. 1942,m. 1910), Sarah, (b. 1890, m. 1925), Myrtle,  
(b. 1892, d. 1956, m. 1915),  
Front : Carrie,(b. 1898,d. 1961,m. 1917), Jacob H. Langston (b. 1863,  
d. 1930, m. 1884 to Alice Hall,b. 1864), Emola,(b. 1903,m. 1924),  
Charles,(b. 1895,d. 1918), and Tressa,(b. 1901, d. 1965,m. 1920).



SAMUEL KENDALL GIFFORD  
Born Nov. 11, 1821, Milo, Yates Co., N. Y.  
Came to Utah Sept. 11, 1850. Patriarch.



OLIVER DEMILL GIFFORD  
Son of Samuel Kendall Gifford and Lara  
Ann DeMill. Born Dec. 10, 1854, Mantl,  
Utah. Bishop Springville Ward.

.....

Samuel K. Gifford arrived in Shonesburg, January 20, 1862 with 9 other families from Sanpete. Samuel was appointed Elder, in June 1868 and served till 1871. He later moved to Springdale, the valley furniture maker and repairman. Father of 7 children. Died, 1907.

Oliver DeMille Gifford, 1854-1932, Bishop of Springdale (not Springville), 1894-1913, father of 14 children.



John Harvey and Charlotte Pincock Ballard

John	Charlotte
Born Nov. 30, 1835.	Born June 3, 1827
Died Mar. 23, 1891	Died Mar. 28, 1901
Married Mar. 6, 1845 to :	Daughter of John

Children :

James M., b. 1847, d. 1925, m. May 8, 1871 to S. Draper.  
Charles H., b. 1853, d. 1923, m. Feb. 17, 1875 to Ann G.  
Edward H., b. 1855, d. ?, m. July 18, 1876 to L. Russell.  
David, b. 1867, d. 1939, m. April 24, 1891 to M. Smith.  
William T., b. 1873, d. 1928, m. April 29, 1902 to E. Wil  
son.

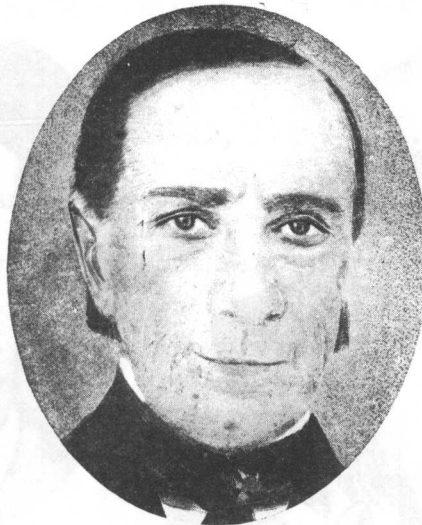
.....

The oldest son of John, James M. served two terms as Bishop of Grafton, first : 1887-1900. Second : 1903-1907.

John's son, David was the father of two sons who became Bishops of Rockville:

David Waldon Ballard served as Rockville's Bishop from 1933 to 1944.

Afton Ballard was Bishop from 1951 to 1958.

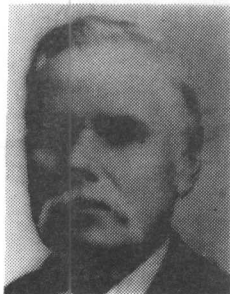


WILLIAM BLACK  
Born Aug. 20, 1784, Lisburn, Ireland.  
Came to Utah Sept. 15, 1850, James Pace  
Company. One of the Founders of Spring  
City, Utah.

.....

WILLIAM BLACK

Arrived on the Virgin, November, 1861. Settled  
in Springdale, 1862. Later moved to Rockville where  
he died, January 28, 1873, age, 89. (see page 33)



← William V. Black  
1832-1927

Two wives,  
10 children  
Joseph Smith Black →  
3 wives  
19 children.



1836-1910

14 years as Bishop of  
Deseret.





JAMES PARSHALL TERRY  
Son of Parshall Terry, who came to Utah  
Oct. 15, 1849, Allen Taylor Company, and  
Hannah Terry. Born Jan. 1, 1830, Albion,  
Ontario, Upper Canada.

Patriarch

1830-1918

Mary Jane Terry (Stout)



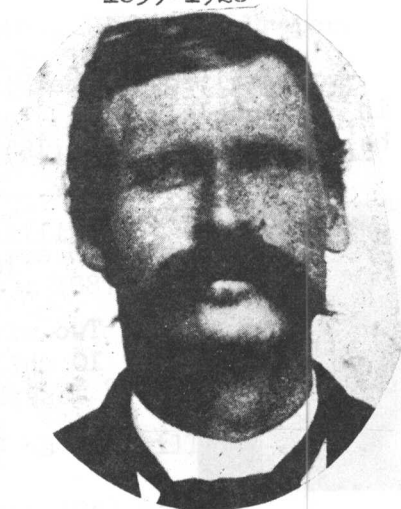
1857-1935



GEORGE W. TERRY  
Son of James Parshall Terry and Mary  
Richards. Born May 21, 1859.

Father of 20 children

1859-1928



JOHN RICHARDS TERRY  
Son of James Parshall Terry and Mary  
Richards. Born July 10, 1868.

1868-1952

James P. Terry, the Patriarch of Rockville, the father of 9 children, 8 of whom are listed herein. Died at Hinckley, Utah, August 12, 1918. A mighty defender of Mormonism. Served as a Bishop's Counselor for 15 years. Rockville's most respected citizen.



Amy Marilla Terry

1866-1943



David Parshall Terry

1870-1957



Sarah Maria Terry

1875-1886



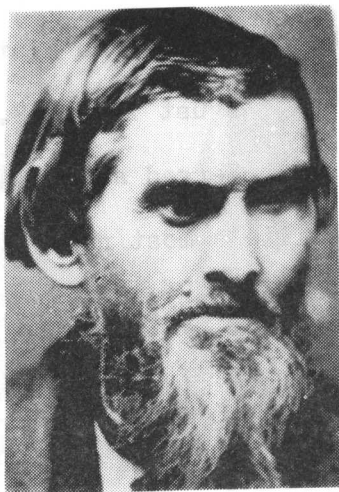
Hannah Agnes Terry

1863-1903



Dency Elizabeth Terry

1872-1892



ALLEN JOSEPH STOUT  
1815-1889



Five of Allen's 15 Children :

Seated : Alfred, Rebecca, and Hosea.

Standing : David and Allen.



Oliver DeMille family, about 1892

Top : Oliver Jr., Ozro, Oscar, Ira, Benjamin, Ida.

Sitting : Levi, Emily Beal DeMille, Oliver, Sr., Anna,

Olive Emily, Orpha, and Roswell, (front).

William R. and Carnelia Crawford  
7 of 12 children



William, 1842-1913



Carnelia, 1851-1933



Mary (Stout)  
1887-1965



John  
1871-1954



Fanny (Gifford)  
1885-?



Daniel  
1879-1965



Emma (Bell)  
1890-1970



Samuel  
1874-1955



Jacob  
1883-1935



JOHN C. HALL  
Came to Utah in 1852.

John C. Hall  
Born Oct. 20, 1821  
Died Mar. 3, 1890  
Married Sept. 25, 1857 to

Kezia DeGray  
Born Jan. 21, 1837  
Died July 25, 1905  
Dau of John

Children :

Alfred, b. 1858, d. 1924, m. Jan. 18, 1882 to Julia Hansen  
Alice, b. 1864, d. 1922, m. Oct. 1, 1884 to Jacob Langston  
Annie, b. 1866, d. 1931, m. Mar. 5, 1886 to John Stout  
Adelia, b. 1870, d. 1908, m. Sept. 17, 1889 to A. Dalton  
Myra, b. 1872, d. ?, m. Jan. 24, 1891 to Jesse Lemmon  
Arthur, b. 1875, d. 1955, m. Mar. 31, 1899 to A. DeMille  
Dora, b. 1878, d. 1940, m. Mar. 24, 1898 to Alfred Stout, Jr.





John F. and Rebecca Stout Dennett

John :

Born Oct. 10, 1853  
Died Feb. 5, 1933  
M. April 18, 1872 to

Rebecca Stout  
Born Jan. 13, 1857  
Died Nov. 16, 1934  
Dau. of Allen.

Children :

Isabell, b. 1873, d. 1903, m. Jan. 21, 1891 to George Dalton  
Maggie, b. 1875, d. 1951, m. Dec. 26, 1893 to Hyrum Hastings  
Clara, b. 1877, d. 1932, m. July 30, 1896 to Ira DeMille  
Daniel, b. 1880, d. 1922, m. May 5, 1903 to Adelia Gifford  
John, b. 1882, d. 1961, m. May 11, 1905 to Malinda Hepworth  
David, b. 1886, d. 1930, m. Dec. 20, 1909 to Rosina Ruby,  
m 2nd to Adria Benfell, Nov. 1, 1915.  
Gertrude, b. 1889, m. May 25, 1908 to Ira Millet.  
Boyd, b. 1891, d. 1956, m. June 8, 1915 to Edna Cragun  
Eva, b. 1894, m. Dec. 2, 1914 to Oscar Stevens.  
Thora, b Mar. 27, 1896, m. Nov. 10, 1914 to Artimus DeMille  
Vera, b. July 11, 1899, m. Sept. 17, 1920 to Vinal Millet  
m. 2nd, Jan. 1, 1923 to John Allred



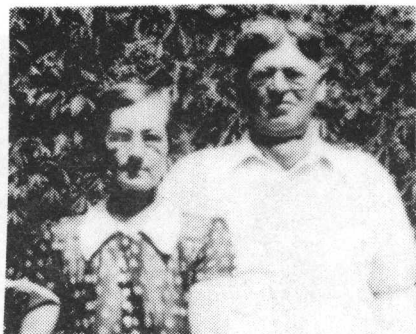
Children of John F. Dennett



Top : John, Clara, Isabell, Daniel and Maggie.  
Bottom : David Alma, Boyd and Gertrude.



Vera, Thora, Eva and Gertrude



Marion Fisk and Mary C. Stout

Marion :  
born Nov. 20, 1876  
Died Oct. 25, 1948  
Married May 2, 1905 to

Mary Crawford  
Born April 19, 1887  
Died June 19, 1965  
Dau. of William

Children :

Lulu, b. 1906, m. June 25, 1928 to Thomas C. Thorley  
Edwin H., b. 1907, m. Jan. 30, 1930 to Nell Sylvester  
Venona, b. 1909, m. June 21, 1927 to Zealot Millet  
Leah, b. 1913, m. Sept. 18, 1931 to Rufus Pearce  
Lawrence, b. Oct. 24, 1915, m. Aug. 21, 1939 to Margaret  
Heward

Deward, b. April 10, 1917, d. Oct. 27, 1941  
Elton, b. 1919, m. Sept. 13, 1941 to Verlyn Wood.  
Orvil, b. Jan. 25, 1922, d. April 23, 1945  
Vaun, b. Sept. 26, 1923, m. Oct. 17, 1941 to Clyde  
Klingonsmith

Alta, b. 1927, m. Sept 21 or 24, 1946 to Ray Beaudoin  
Rae, b. 1928, m. Nov. 29, 1947 to W. L. Banks  
Boyd, b. 1930, m. May 24, 1949 to Jonna Pulsipher  
Dell, b. 1933, m. Mar. 20, 1953 to Corinne Stratton.

# ANNOUNCEMENT

The Author :



.....  
Other Books by the Author :

1944 - Our Pioneer Ancestors

1953 - Hosea Stout, Utah's Pioneer Statesman

1957 - Ancestors and Descendants of Jehu Cox

1960 - Genealogy of the Sagers, Fisk and Stout Families

1967 - History of Utah, Vol. I, 1870-1896

1968 - History of Utah, Vol. II, 1896-1929

1971 - History of Utah, Vol. III, 1930-1970

Coming :

History of Hinckley, Utah

POST-SCRIPT

1972 Rockville Election Returns

President :

Nixon, R. 49 - McGovern, D. 9

Congress :

Lloyd, R. 40 - Owens, 25

Governor

Strike, R. 42 - Rampton, D. 27

State Senate

Leavitt, R. 53, - Unopposed

House

Atkin, R. 26 - Hinton, D. 40